MARVEL
MYSTERY COMICS
SEPTEMBER
NO. 58
10¢

Beautiful Simulated BIRTHSTONE RING GIVEN AWAY

Also Other Valuable Gifts

Smart, new, dainty, Sterling Silver Ring set with sparkling simulated Birthstone correct for your birth date—GIVEN for selling only 5 boxes of Gold Crown Spot Remover and Cleaner at 25c each and returning the money collected. Dozens of other useful and valuable gifts (Hose, Pens, Scissors, Rings, Lockets, Costume Jewelry, etc.) are also offered in our free catalog-circular. Send name and address today for order and catalog to start.

Birthstone Ring Given for Selling 5 boxes.

Hollywood Locket—Given for selling 10 boxes.

Powerful Telescope for spotting planes Given for selling 10 boxes.

Ladies' Hosiery Given for Selling 5 boxes.

Just Send The Coupon We TRUST You

Many feel it's lucky to wear their birthstone. Send coupon today.

GOLD CROWN PRODUCTS, Dept. E-85, Jefferson, Iowa

Enclose this coupon in an envelope or paste it on a postcard and send it to GOLD CROWN PRODUCTS, Dept. E-85 Jefferson, Iowa, for order to start.

NAME .....

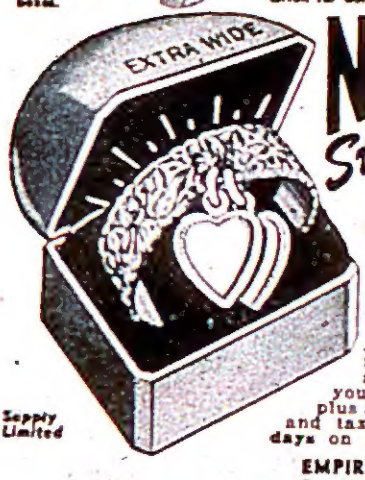
ADDRESS .....

CITY..... STATE.....

Gift I would like to have you send me.

.....

.....



Sappy Limited

NEW True-Love and Friendship Sterling Silver Pendant RING $1.95 TEN DAYS TRIAL

The ring that grows in attractiveness and sentiment the longer it is worn. This genuine Sterling Silver ring is extra wide and beautifully embossed with the very newest "Forget-Me-Not" design with two pendant hearts suitable for engraving initials of loved ones. The ring of romance and true friendship.

No other gift is quite so appropriate among friends or lovers now that so many good friends, pals and sweethearts are far away from each other.

SEND NO MONEY

Just name, address and ring size. Your package sent immediately and you pay postman only $1.95 plus a few cents mailing cost and tax, on arrival. Wear 10 days on money back guarantee.

EMPIRE DIAMOND CO., Dept. 101-A, Jefferson, Iowa

EMPIRE DIAMOND CO., Dept. 101-A, Jefferson, Iowa

Send the extra wide band Sterling Silver "Forget-Me-Not" Design Ring. I understand I can return my order within 10 days for any reason and you will refund promptly.

Name .....

Address .....

City .....

Ring Size..... State.....

For Your Ring Size

Use handy ring measure at right. Tie string around finger, cut and mark off size on scale.

New ENLARGEMENT 3¢ STAMP

Just to Get Acquainted We Will Beautifully Enlarge Your Favorite Snapshot, Photo, Kodak Picture, Print or Negative to 5 x 7 Inches If You Enclose the Coupon and a 3 Cent Stamp for Return Mailing!

Everyone admires pictures in natural colors because the surroundings and loved ones are so true to life, just the way they looked when the pictures were taken, so we want you to know also about our gorgeous colored enlargements. Think of having that small picture or snapshot enlarged to 5 by 7-inch size so that the details and features you love are more life-like and natural.

Over one million men and women have sent us their favorite snapshots and pictures for enlarging. Thousands write us how much they also enjoy their remarkably true-to-life, natural colored enlargements we have sent them in handsome black and gold, or ivory and gold frames.

Enclose this coupon with your favorite snapshot, picture or negative and send to DEAN STUDIOS, Dept. 837, 211 W. 7th St., Des Moines, Iowa.

Name .....

Address .....

City..... State.....

Color of Hair .....

Color of Eyes .....

You are now given a wonderful opportunity to receive a beautiful enlargement of your cherished snapshot, photo or Kodak picture. Please include the color of hair and eyes and get our new bargain offer giving you your choice of handsome frames with a second enlargement beautifully hand tinted in natural lifelike oil colors and sent on approval. Your original is returned with your enlargement. This amazing enlargement offer is our way of getting acquainted and letting you know the quality of our work. Send today as supplies are limited.

DEAN STUDIOS, Dept. 837, 211 W. 7th St., Des Moines, Iowa

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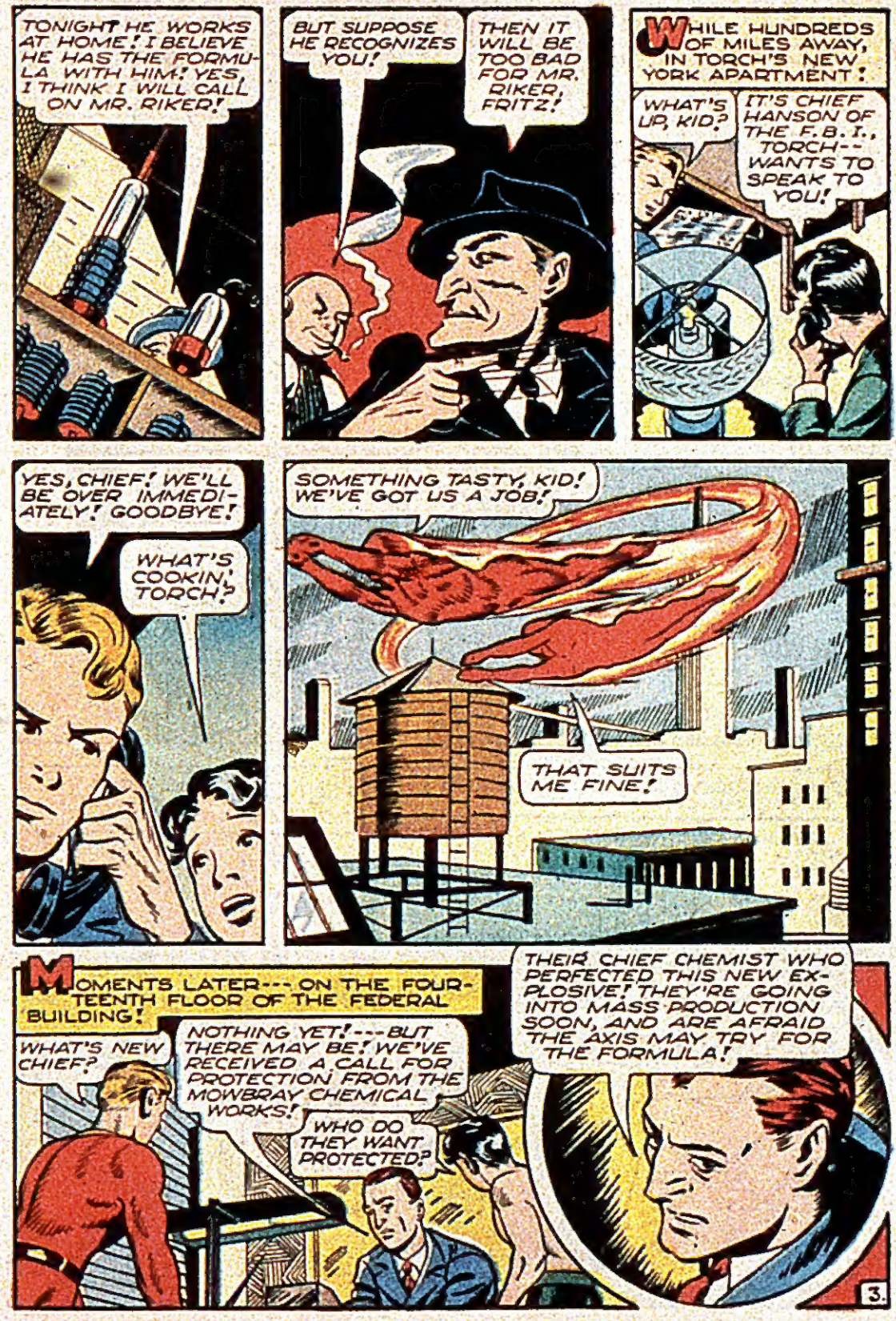
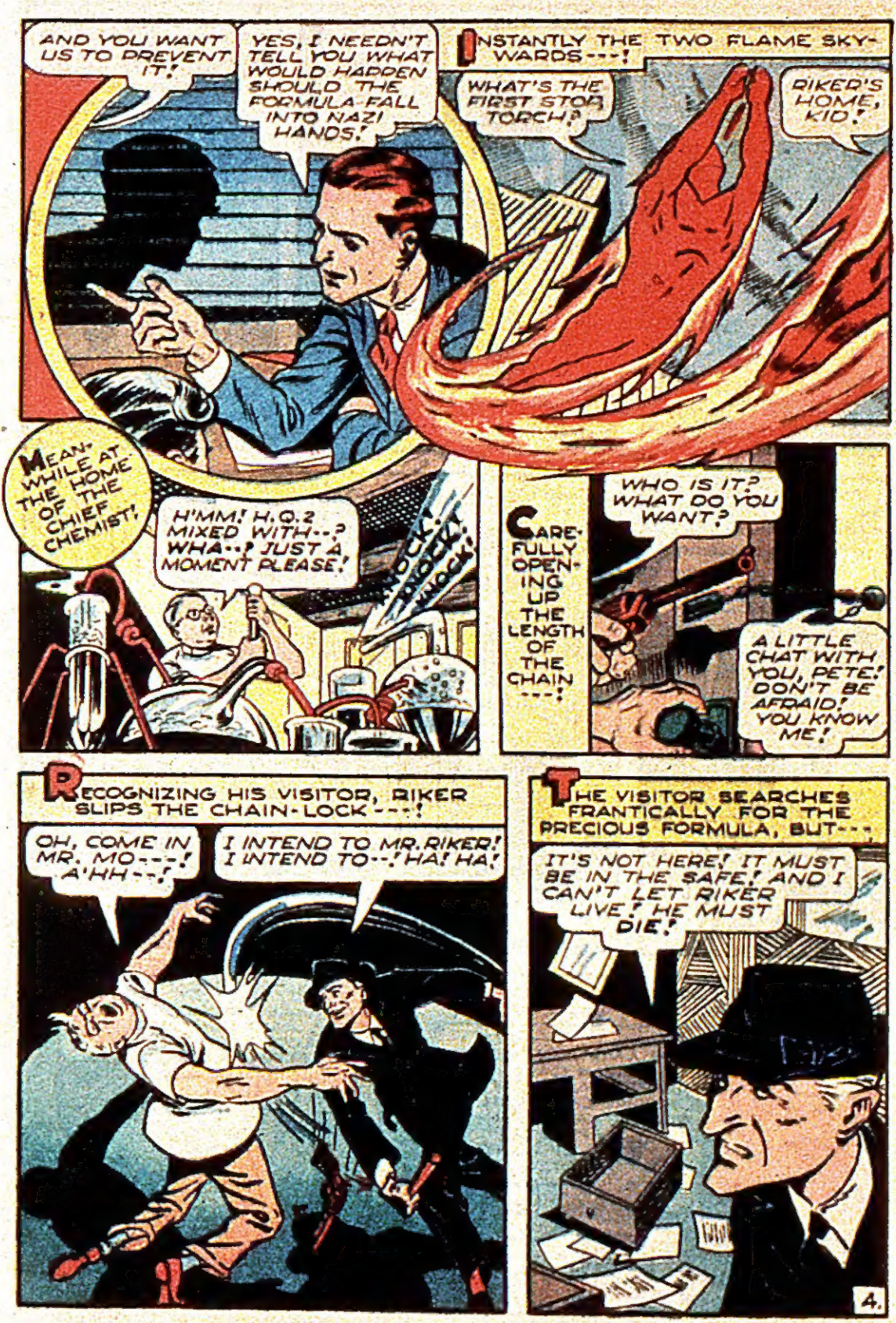
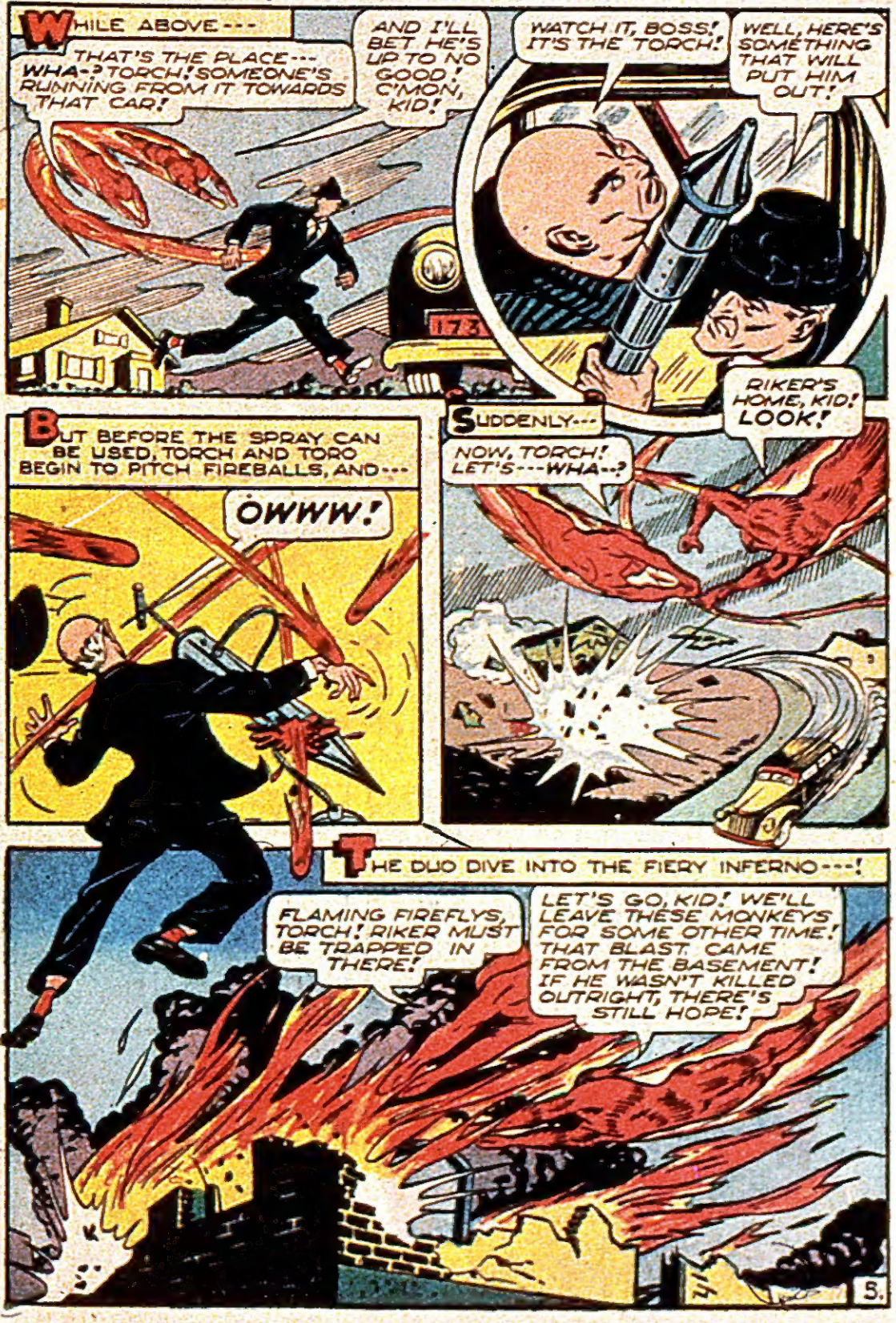
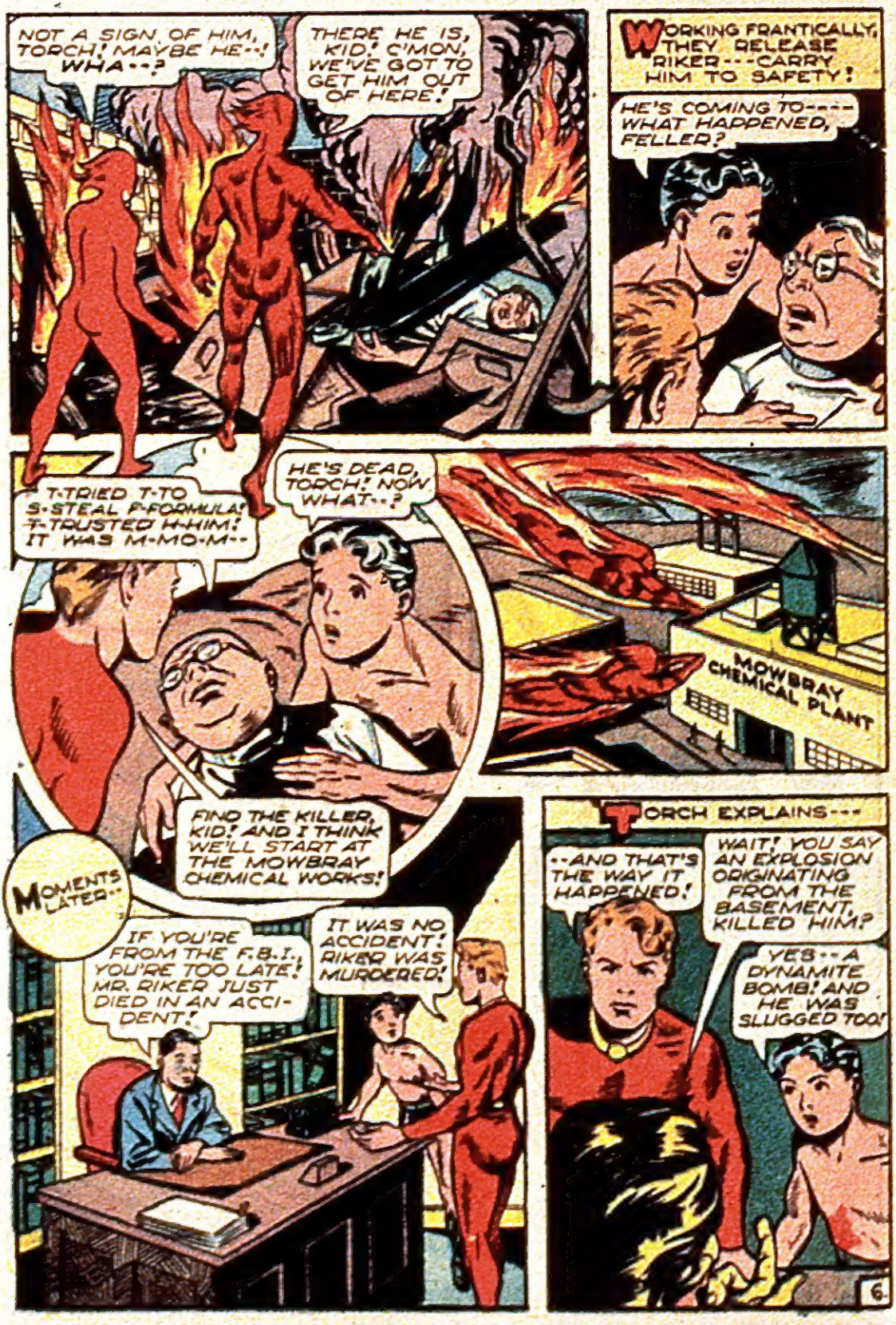
The HUMAN TORCH
VERSUS THE NAZI SUPER SPY
T.N.T.
T.N.T.
T.N.T.
T.N.T.

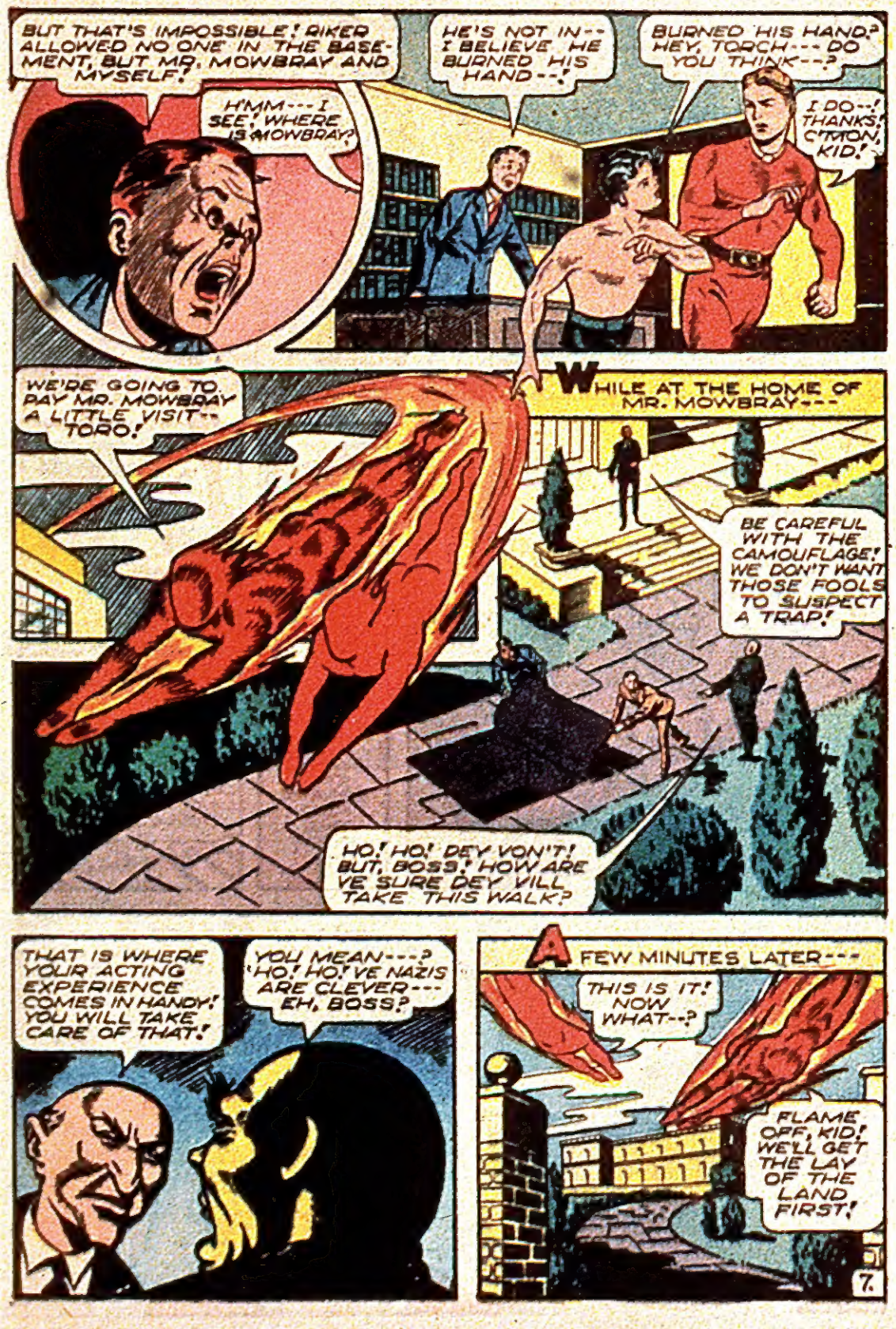
UR STORY OPENS IN THE SKIES OVER BERLIN AND IN THE CITY BELOW!
WE'VE DONE IT BEFORE AND WE'LL DO IT AGAIN!
HERE'S A NEW HEADACHE, RATZIS! MADE IN AMERICA!
WHILE DEER UNDERGROUND-- THE FEARLESS ADOLPH--
I CAN'T STAND IT! MY NERVES! MY NERVES! VASS ISS? IT VASS NEVER SO BAD AS THIS!
THE YANKEE SWINE HAFF A NEW EXPLOSIVE, MEIN FUEHRER!
THEN STOP ITS MANUFACTURE! DESTROY THE FACTORIES! WHAT HAFF WE SPIES IN AMERICA FOR? STOP IT! OH, MY NERVES! MY NERVES!
THE ORDER IS FLASHED ACROSS THE ATLANTIC TO AMERICA----
VE ARE ORDERED TO STEAL THE FORMULA, AND DESTROY THE PLANT PRODUCING THE NEW EXPLOSIVE!
PETER RIKER, THEIR CHIEF CHEMIST HAS THE FORMULA IN HIS SAFE! NOT EVEN I KNOW THE COMBINATION!
2.

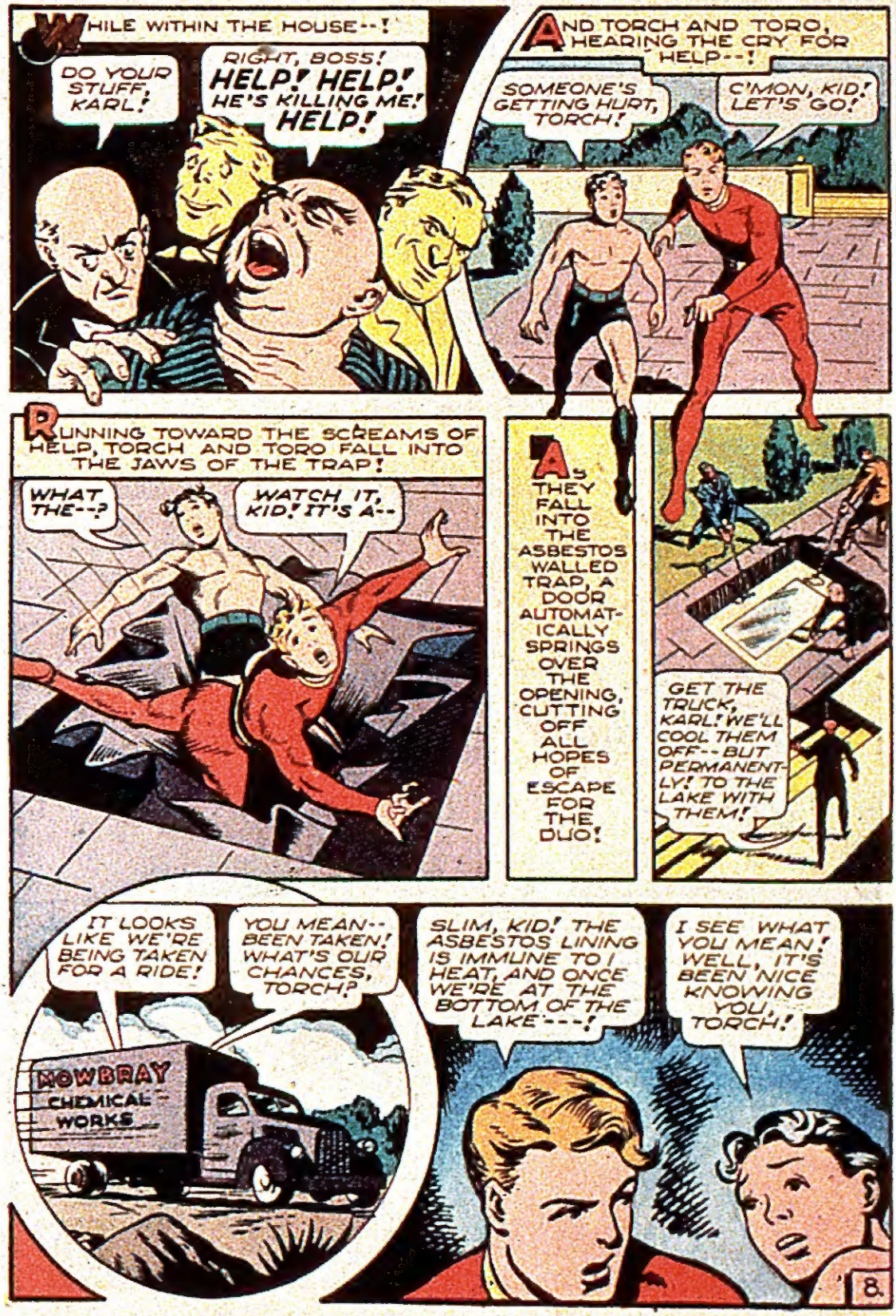

TONIGHT HE WORKS AT HOME! I BELIEVE HE HAS THE FORMULA WITH HIM! YES, I THINK I WILL CALL ON MR. RIKER!
BUT SUPPOSE HE RECOGNIZES YOU!
THEN IT WILL BE TOO BAD FOR MR. RIKER, FRITZ!
WHILE HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY, IN TORCH'S NEW YORK APARTMENT:
WHAT'S UP, KID?
IT'S CHIEF HANSON OF THE F.B.I., TORCH--- WANTS TO SPEAK TO YOU!
YES, CHIEF! WE'LL BE OVER IMMEDIATELY! GOODBYE!
WHAT'S COOKIN', TORCH?
SOMETHING TASTY, KID! WE'VE GOT US A JOB!
THAT SUITS ME FINE!
MOMENTS LATER--- ON THE FOURTEENTH FLOOR OF THE FEDERAL BUILDING!
WHAT'S NEW CHIEF?
NOTHING YET!--- BUT THERE MAY BE! WE'VE RECEIVED A CALL FOR PROTECTION FROM THE MOWBRAY CHEMICAL WORKS!
WHO DO THEY WANT PROTECTED?
THEIR CHIEF CHEMIST WHO PERFECTED THIS NEW EXPLOSIVE! THEY'RE GOING INTO MASS PRODUCTION SOON, AND ARE AFRAID THE AXIS MAY TRY FOR THE FORMULA!
3.

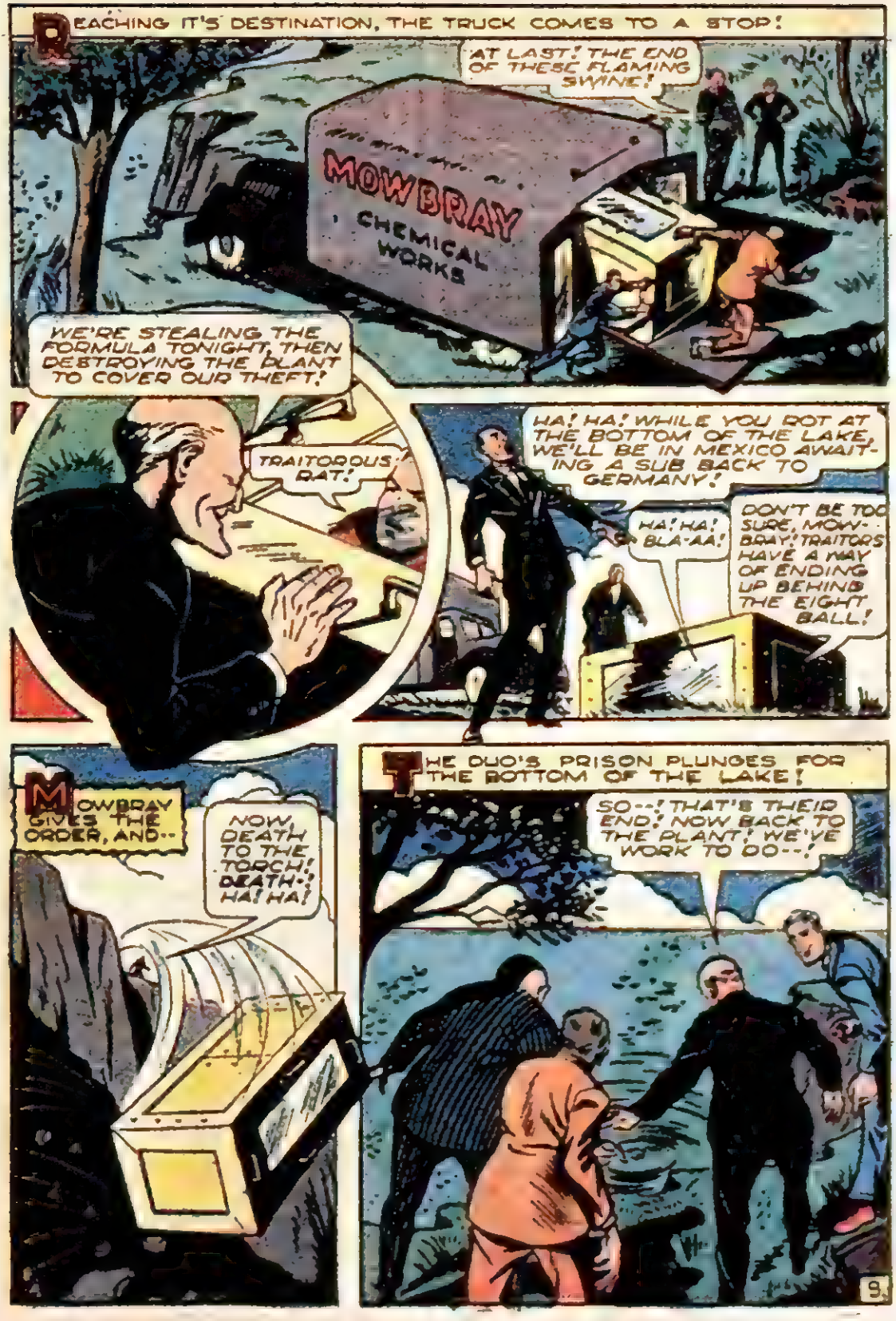

AND YOU WANT US TO PREVENT IT!
YES, I NEEDN'T TELL YOU WHAT WOULD HAPPEN SHOULD THE FORMULA FALL INTO NAZI HANDS!
INSTANTLY THE TWO FLAME SKYWARDS---!
WHAT'S THE FIRST STOP, TORCH?
RIKER'S HOME, KID!
MEANWHILE AT THE HOME OF THE CHIEF CHEMIST!
H'MM! H.O.2 MIXED WITH--? WHA--? JUST A MOMENT PLEASE!
KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK!
CAREFULLY OPENING UP THE LENGTH OF THE CHAIN---!
WHO IS IT? WHAT DO YOU WANT?
A LITTLE CHAT WITH YOU, PETE! DON'T BE AFRAID! YOU KNOW ME!
RECOGNIZING HIS VISITOR, RIKER SLIPS THE CHAIN-LOCK---!
OH, COME IN MR. MO---! A'HH--!
I INTEND TO MR. RIKER! I INTEND TO--! HA! HA!
THE VISITOR SEARCHES FRANTICALLY FOR THE PRECIOUS FORMULA, BUT---
IT'S NOT HERE! IT MUST BE IN THE SAFE! AND I CAN'T LET RIKER LIVE! HE MUST DIE!
4.

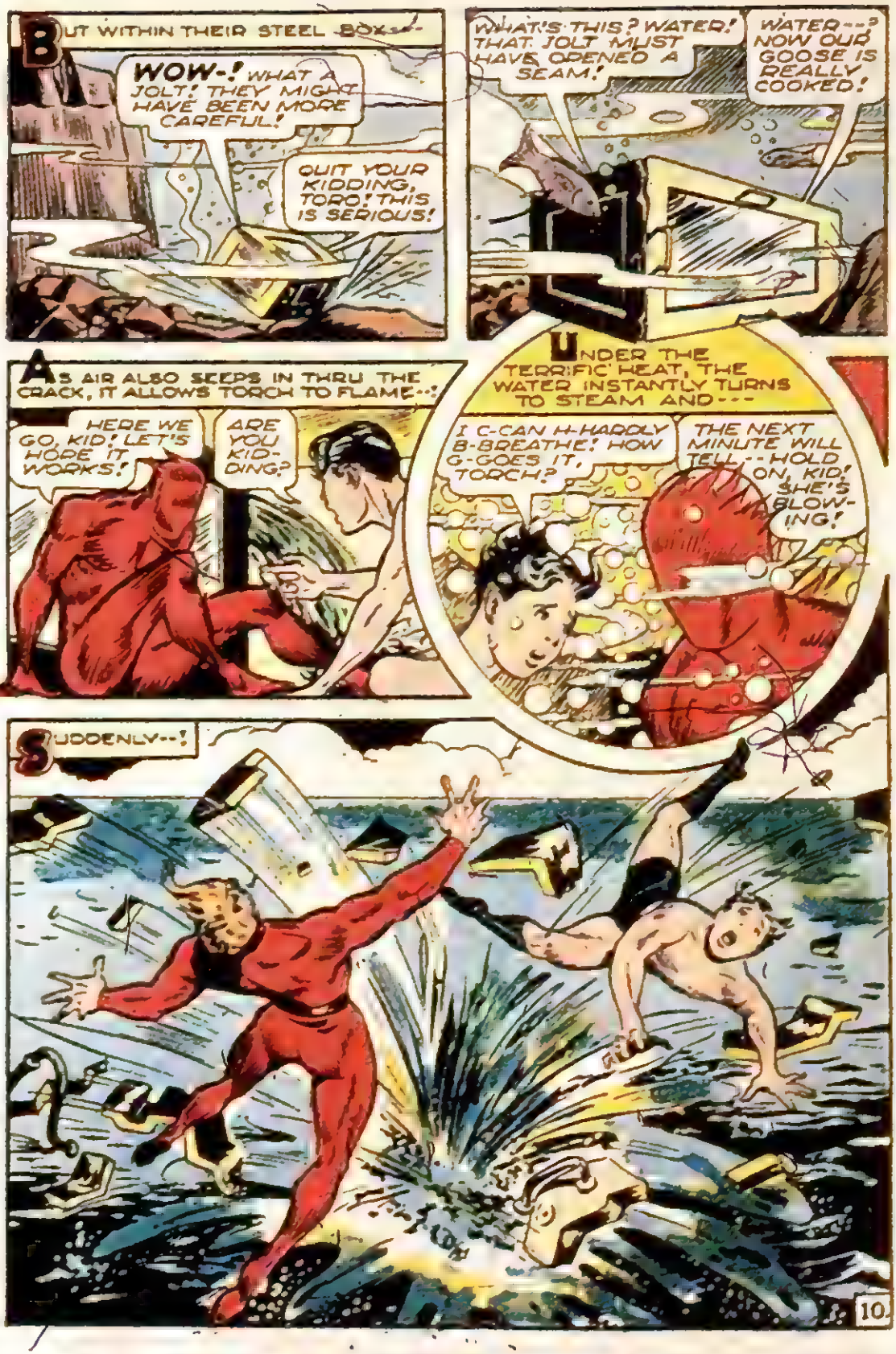

WHILE ABOVE---
THAT'S THE PLACE--- WHA-? TORCH! SOMEONE'S RUNNING FROM IT TOWARDS THAT CAR!
AND I'LL BET HE'S UP TO NO GOOD! C'MON, KID!
173
WATCH IT, BOSS! IT'S THE TORCH!
WELL, HERE'S SOMETHING THAT WILL PUT HIM OUT!
SUDDENLY---
NOW, TORCH! LET'S---WHA--?
RIKER'S HOME, KID! LOOK!
BUT BEFORE THE SPRAY CAN BE USED, TORCH AND TORO BEGIN TO PITCH FIREBALLS, AND---
OWWW!
THE DUO DIVE INTO THE FIERY INFERNO---!
FLAMING FIREFLYS, TORCH! RIKER MUST BE TRAPPED IN THERE!
LET'S GO, KID! WE'LL LEAVE THESE MONKEYS FOR SOME OTHER TIME! THAT BLAST CAME FROM THE BASEMENT! IF HE WASN'T KILLED OUTRIGHT, THERE'S STILL HOPE!
5.

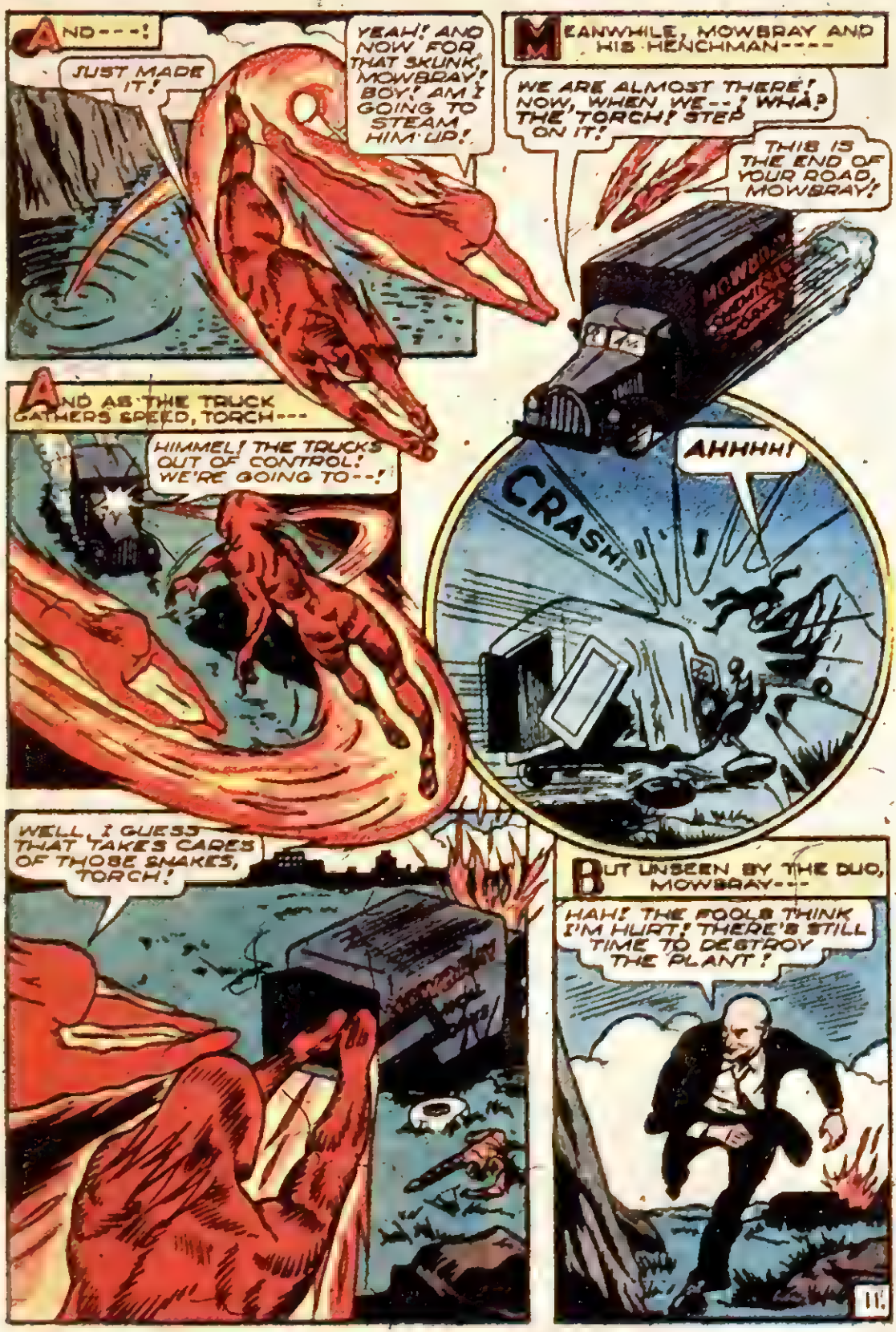

NOT A SIGN OF HIM, TORCH! MAYBE HE--!
WHA--?
THERE HE IS, KID! C'MON, WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM OUT OF HERE!
WORKING FRANTICALLY, THEY RELEASE RIKER---CARRY HIM TO SAFETY!
HE'S COMING TO---- WHAT HAPPENED, FELLER?
T-TRIED T-TO S-STEAL F-FORMULA! T-TRUSTED H-HIM! IT WAS M-MO-M--
HE'S DEAD, TORCH! NOW WHAT--?
MOWBRAY CHEMICAL PLANT
FIND THE KILLER, KID! AND I THINK WE'LL START AT THE MOWBRAY CHEMICAL WORKS!
MOMENTS LATER--
IF YOU'RE FROM THE F.B.I., YOU'RE TOO LATE! MR. RIKER JUST DIED IN AN ACCIDENT!
IT WAS NO ACCIDENT! RIKER WAS MURDERED!
TORCH EXPLAINS---
--AND THAT'S THE WAY IT HAPPENED!
WAIT! YOU SAY AN EXPLOSION ORIGINATING FROM THE BASEMENT, KILLED HIM?
YES--A DYNAMITE BOMB! AND HE WAS SLUGGED TOO!
6

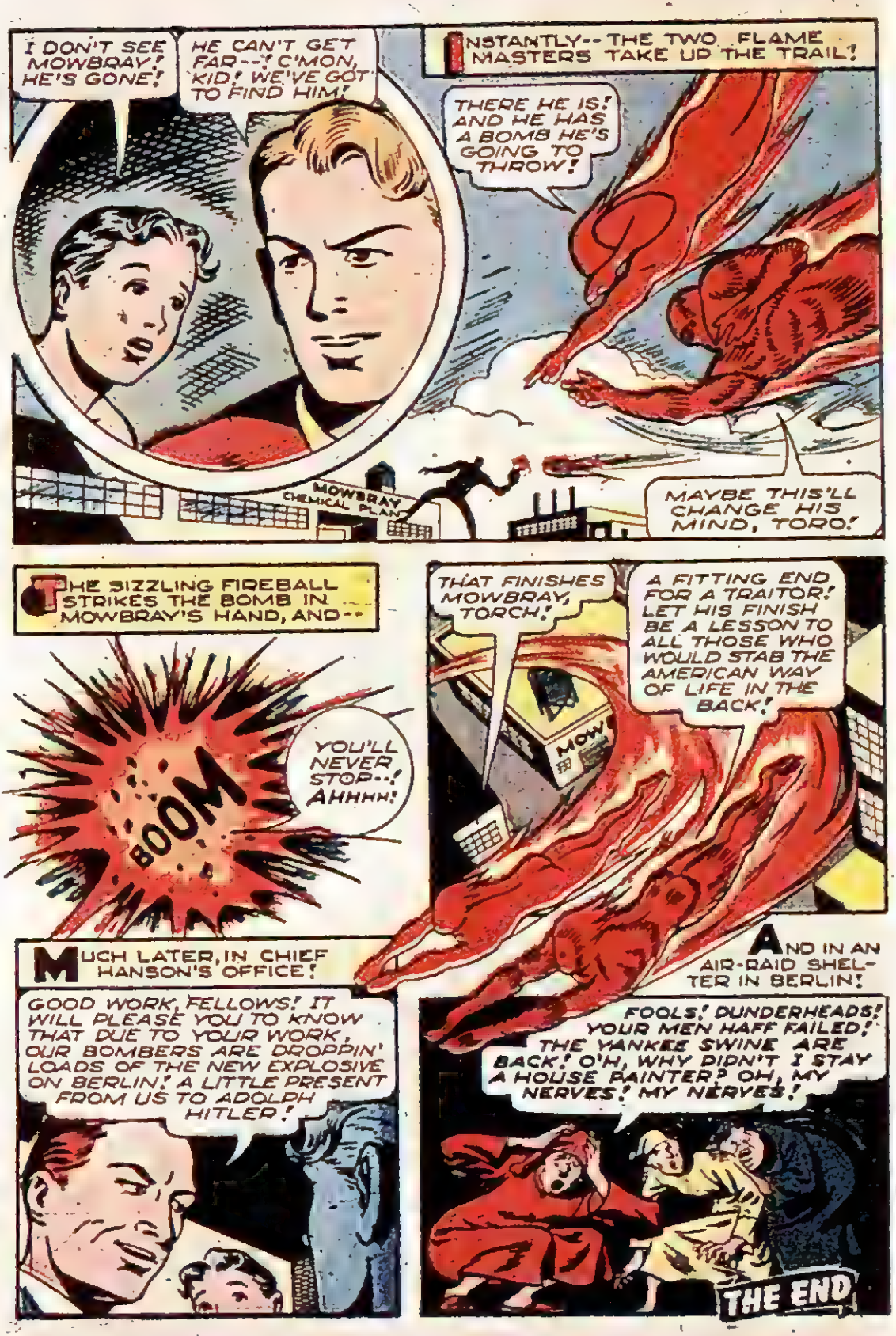

BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! RIKER ALLOWED NO ONE IN THE BASEMENT, BUT MR. MOWBRAY AND MYSELF!
HMM--- I SEE! WHERE IS MOWBRAY?
HE'S NOT IN-- I BELIEVE HE BURNED HIS HAND--!
BURNED HIS HAND? HEY, TORCH--- DO YOU THINK---?
I DO--! THANKS! C'MON, KID!
WHILE AT THE HOME OF MR. MOWBRAY---
WE'RE GOING TO PAY MR. MOWBRAY A LITTLE VISIT-- TORO!
BE CAREFUL WITH THE CAMOUFLAGE! WE DON'T WANT THOSE FOOLS TO SUSPECT A TRAP!
HO! HO! DEY VON'T! BUT, BOSS! HOW ARE VE SURE DEY VILL TAKE THIS WALK?
THAT IS WHERE YOUR ACTING EXPERIENCE COMES IN HANDY! YOU WILL TAKE CARE OF THAT!
YOU MEAN---? HO! HO! VE NAZIS ARE CLEVER--- EH, BOSS?
A FEW MINUTES LATER---
THIS IS IT! NOW WHAT--?
FLAME OFF, KID! WE'LL GET THE LAY OF THE LAND FIRST!
7.


WHILE WITHIN THE HOUSE--!
DO YOUR STUFF, KARL!
RIGHT, BOSS! HELP! HELP! HE'S KILLING ME! HELP!
AND TORCH AND TORO, HEARING THE CRY FOR HELP--!
SOMEONE'S GETTING HURT, TORCH!
C'MON, KID! LET'S GO!
RUNNING TOWARD THE SCREAMS OF HELP, TORCH AND TORO FALL INTO THE JAWS OF THE TRAP!
WHAT THE--?
WATCH IT, KID! IT'S A--
AS THEY FALL INTO THE ASBESTOS WALLED TRAP, A DOOR AUTOMATICALLY SPRINGS OVER THE OPENING, CUTTING OFF ALL HOPES OF ESCAPE FOR THE DUO!
GET THE TRUCK, KARL! WE'LL COOL THEM OFF-- BUT PERMANENTLY! TO THE LAKE WITH THEM!
IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE BEING TAKEN FOR A RIDE!
YOU MEAN-- BEEN TAKEN! WHAT'S OUR CHANCES, TORCH?
NOWBRAY CHEMICAL WORKS
SLIM, KID! THE ASBESTOS LINING IS IMMUNE TO HEAT, AND ONCE WE'RE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE---!
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN! WELL, IT'S BEEN NICE KNOWING YOU, TORCH!
8

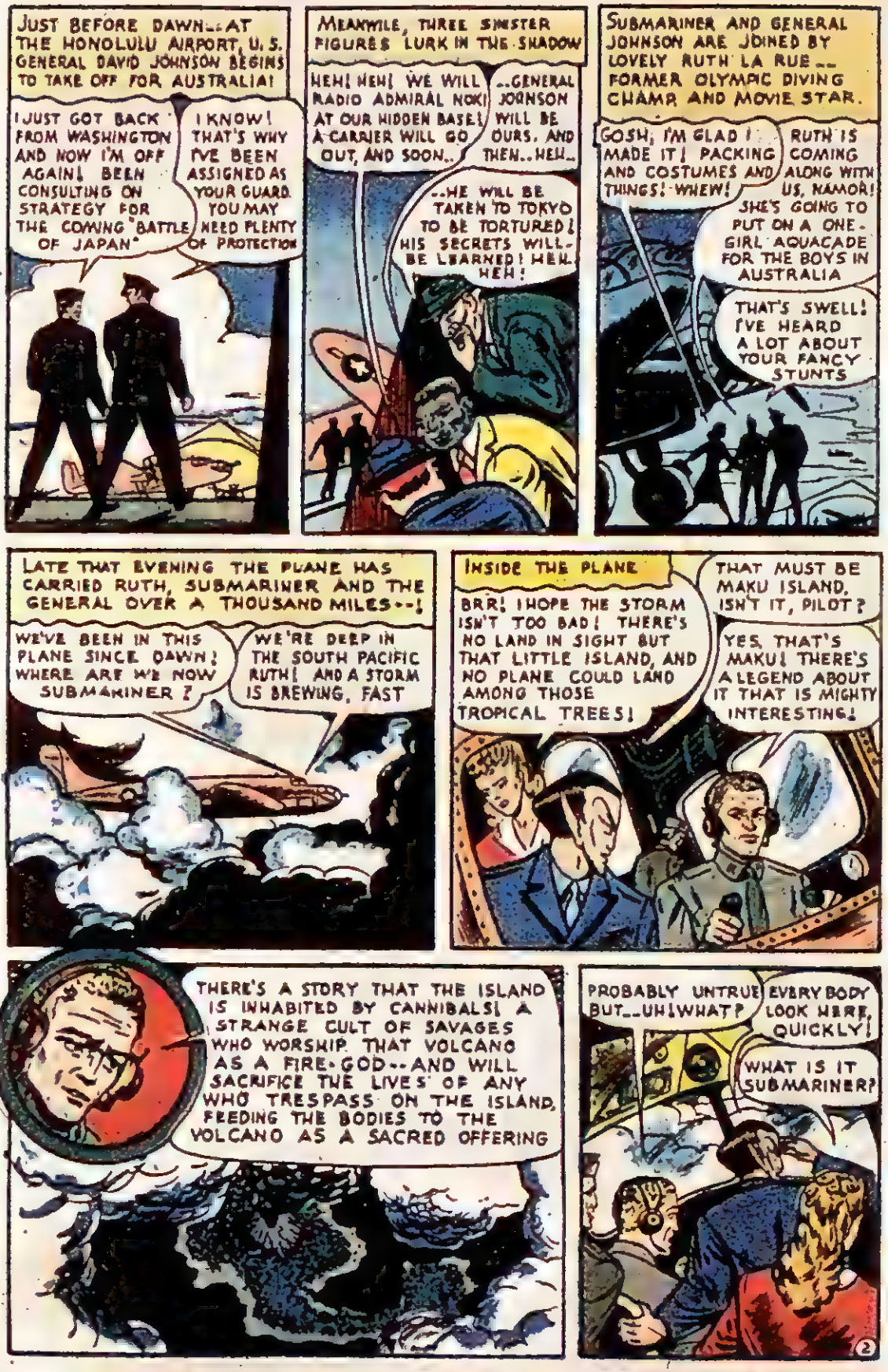

REACHING IT'S DESTINATION, THE TRUCK COMES TO A STOP!
AT LAST! THE END OF THESE FLAMING SWINE!
MOWBRAY CHEMICAL WORKS
WE'RE STEALING THE FORMULA TONIGHT, THEN DESTROYING THE PLANT TO COVER OUR THEFT!
TRAITOROUS RAT!
HA! HA! WHILE YOU ROT AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE, WE'LL BE IN MEXICO AWAITING A SUB BACK TO GERMANY!
HA! HA! BLA-AA!
DON'T BE TOO SURE, MOWBRAY! TRAITORS HAVE A WAY OF ENDING UP BEHIND THE EIGHT BALL!
MOWBRAY GIVES THE ORDER, AND--
NOW, DEATH TO THE TORCH! DEATH--! HA! HA!
THE DUO'S PRISON PLUNGES FOR THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE!
SO--! THAT'S THE ID END! NOW BACK TO THE PLANT! WE'VE WORK TO DO--!
9

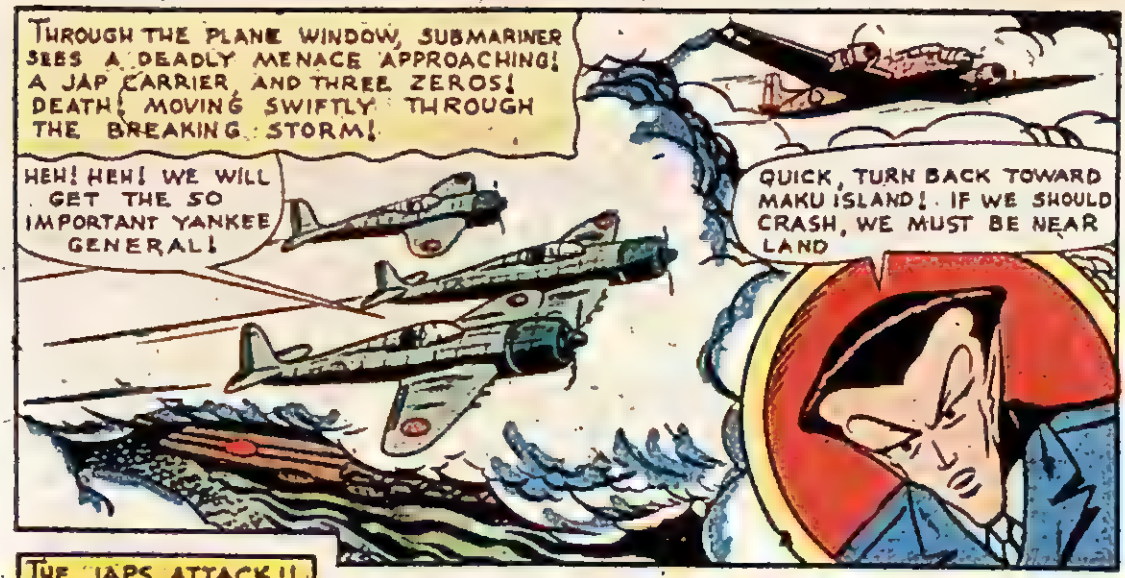

BUT WITHIN THEIR STEEL BOX--
WOW-! WHAT A JOLT! THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE CAREFUL!
QUIT YOUR KIDDING, TORO! THIS IS SERIOUS!
WHAT'S THIS? WATER! THAT JOLT MUST HAVE OPENED A SEAM!
WATER--? NOW OUR GOOSE IS REALLY COOKED!
AS AIR ALSO SEEPS IN THRU THE CRACK, IT ALLOWS TORCH TO FLAME--:
HERE WE GO, KID! LET'S HOPE IT WORKS!
ARE YOU KIDDING?
UNDER THE TERRIFIC HEAT, THE WATER INSTANTLY TURNS TO STEAM AND---
I C-CAN H-HARDLY B-BREATHE! HOW G-GOES IT, TORCH?
THE NEXT MINUTE WILL TELL--HOLD ON, KID! SHE'S BLOWING!
SUDDENLY--!
10

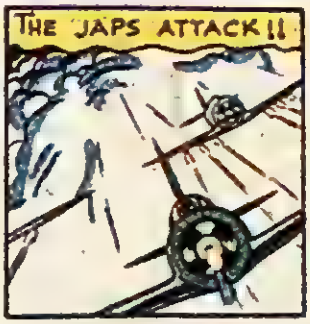

AND---!
JUST MADE IT!
YEAH! AND NOW FOR THAT SKUNK, MOWBRAY! BOY! AM I GOING TO STEAM HIM UP!
MEANWHILE, MOWBRAY AND HIS HENCHMAN----
WE ARE ALMOST THERE! NOW, WHEN WE--! WHA? THE TORCH! STEP ON IT!
THIS IS THE END OF YOUR ROAD, MOWBRAY!
AND AS THE TRUCK GATHERS SPEED, TORCH---
HIMMEL! THE TRUCK'S OUT OF CONTROL! WE'RE GOING TO--!
CRASH!
AHHHH!
WELL, I GUESS THAT TAKES CARES OF THOSE SNAKES, TORCH!
BUT UNSEEN BY THE DUO, MOWBRAY---
HAH! THE FOOLS THINK I'M HURT! THERE'S STILL TIME TO DESTROY THE PLANT!
11


I DON'T SEE MOWBRAY! HE'S GONE!
HE CAN'T GET FAR--! C'MON, KID! WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIM!
INSTANTLY--THE TWO FLAME MASTERS TAKE UP THE TRAIL!
THERE HE IS! AND HE HAS A BOMB HE'S GOING TO THROW!
MOWBRAY CHEMICAL PLANT
MAYBE THIS'LL CHANGE HIS MIND, TORO!
THE SIZZLING FIREBALL STRIKES THE BOMB IN MOWBRAY'S HAND, AND--
BOOM
YOU'LL NEVER STOP--! AHHHH!
THAT FINISHES MOWBRAY, TORCH!
A FITTING END FOR A TRAITOR! LET HIS FINISH BE A LESSON TO ALL THOSE WHO WOULD STAB THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE IN THE BACK!
MOW
MUCH LATER, IN CHIEF HANSON'S OFFICE!
GOOD WORK, FELLOWS! IT WILL PLEASE YOU TO KNOW THAT DUE TO YOUR WORK, OUR BOMBERS ARE DROPPIN' LOADS OF THE NEW EXPLOSIVE ON BERLIN! A LITTLE PRESENT FROM US TO ADOLPH HITLER!
AND IN AN AIR-RAID SHELTER IN BERLIN!
FOOLS! DUNDERHEADS! YOUR MEN HAFF FAILED! THE YANKEE SWINE ARE BACK! O'H, WHY DIDN'T I STAY A HOUSE PAINTER? OH, MY NERVES! MY NERVES!
THE END

SUB-MARINER
"The CULT of CANNIBALS!"
WEIRD AND GRUESOME, ONLY THOSE WHOM THEY BELIEVE TO BE KINDLY GODS, ARE SAFE FROM THEIR FEROCIOUS SAVAGERY! IT IS TO THIS CANNIBAL ISLAND OF STRANGE MYSTERY THAT SUBMARINER IS LED BY AN AWFUL EVENT THAT THREATENS THE WHOLE AMERICAN WAR EFFORT!! SUBMARINER IS CALLED ON TO ANSWER THE CHALLENGE!! ---WILL HE SUCCEED??


JUST BEFORE DAWN--AT THE HONOLULU AIRPORT, U. S. GENERAL DAVID JOHNSON BEGINS TO TAKE OFF FOR AUSTRALIA!
I JUST GOT BACK FROM WASHINGTON AND NOW I'M OFF AGAIN! BEEN CONSULTING ON STRATEGY FOR THE COMING BATTLE OF JAPAN"
I KNOW! THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED AS YOUR GUARD. YOU MAY NEED PLENTY OF PROTECTION
MEANWHILE, THREE SINISTER FIGURES LURK IN THE SHADOW
HEH! HEH! WE WILL RADIO ADMIRAL NOKI AT OUR HIDDEN BASE! A CARRIER WILL GO OUT, AND SOON..
..GENERAL JOHNSON WILL BE OURS. AND THEN..HEH..
..HE WILL BE TAKEN TO TOKYO TO BE TORTURED! HIS SECRETS WILL BE LEARNED! HEH. HEH!
SUBMARINER AND GENERAL JOHNSON ARE JOINED BY LOVELY RUTH LA RUE -- FORMER OLYMPIC DIVING CHAMP AND MOVIE STAR.
GOSH, I'M GLAD I MADE IT! PACKING AND COSTUMES AND THINGS! WHEW!
RUTH IS COMING ALONG WITH US, NAMOR! SHE'S GOING TO PUT ON A ONE-GIRL AQUACADE FOR THE BOYS IN AUSTRALIA
THAT'S SWELL! I'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOUR FANCY STUNTS
LATE THAT EVENING THE PLANE HAS CARRIED RUTH, SUBMARINER AND THE GENERAL OVER A THOUSAND MILES--!
WE'VE BEEN IN THIS PLANE SINCE DAWN! WHERE ARE WE NOW SUBMARINER?
WE'RE DEEP IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC RUTH! AND A STORM IS BREWING, FAST
INSIDE THE PLANE
BRR! I HOPE THE STORM ISN'T TOO BAD! THERE'S NO LAND IN SIGHT BUT THAT LITTLE ISLAND, AND NO PLANE COULD LAND AMONG THOSE TROPICAL TREES!
THAT MUST BE MAKU ISLAND, ISN'T IT, PILOT?
YES, THAT'S MAKU! THERE'S A LEGEND ABOUT IT THAT IS MIGHTY INTERESTING!
THERE'S A STORY THAT THE ISLAND IS INHABITED BY CANNIBALS! A STRANGE CULT OF SAVAGES WHO WORSHIP THAT VOLCANO AS A FIRE-GOD--AND WILL SACRIFICE THE LIVES OF ANY WHO TRESPASS ON THE ISLAND, FEEDING THE BODIES TO THE VOLCANO AS A SACRED OFFERING
PROBABLY UNTRUE BUT--UH! WHAT?
EVERY BODY LOOK HERE, QUICKLY!
WHAT IS IT SUBMARINER?
2

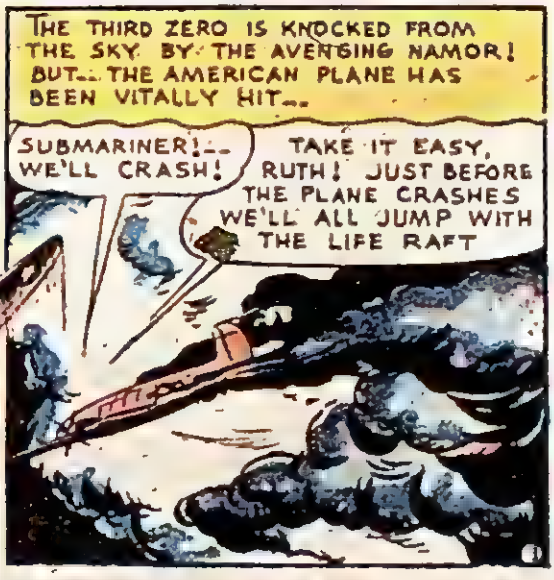

THROUGH THE PLANE WINDOW, SUBMARINER SEES A DEADLY MENACE APPROACHING! A JAP CARRIER AND THREE ZEROS! DEATH! MOVING SWIFTLY THROUGH THE BREAKING STORM!
HEH! HEH! WE WILL GET THE SO IMPORTANT YANKEE GENERAL!
QUICK, TURN BACK TOWARD MAKU ISLAND! IF WE SHOULD CRASH, WE MUST BE NEAR LAND


THE JAPS ATTACK!!

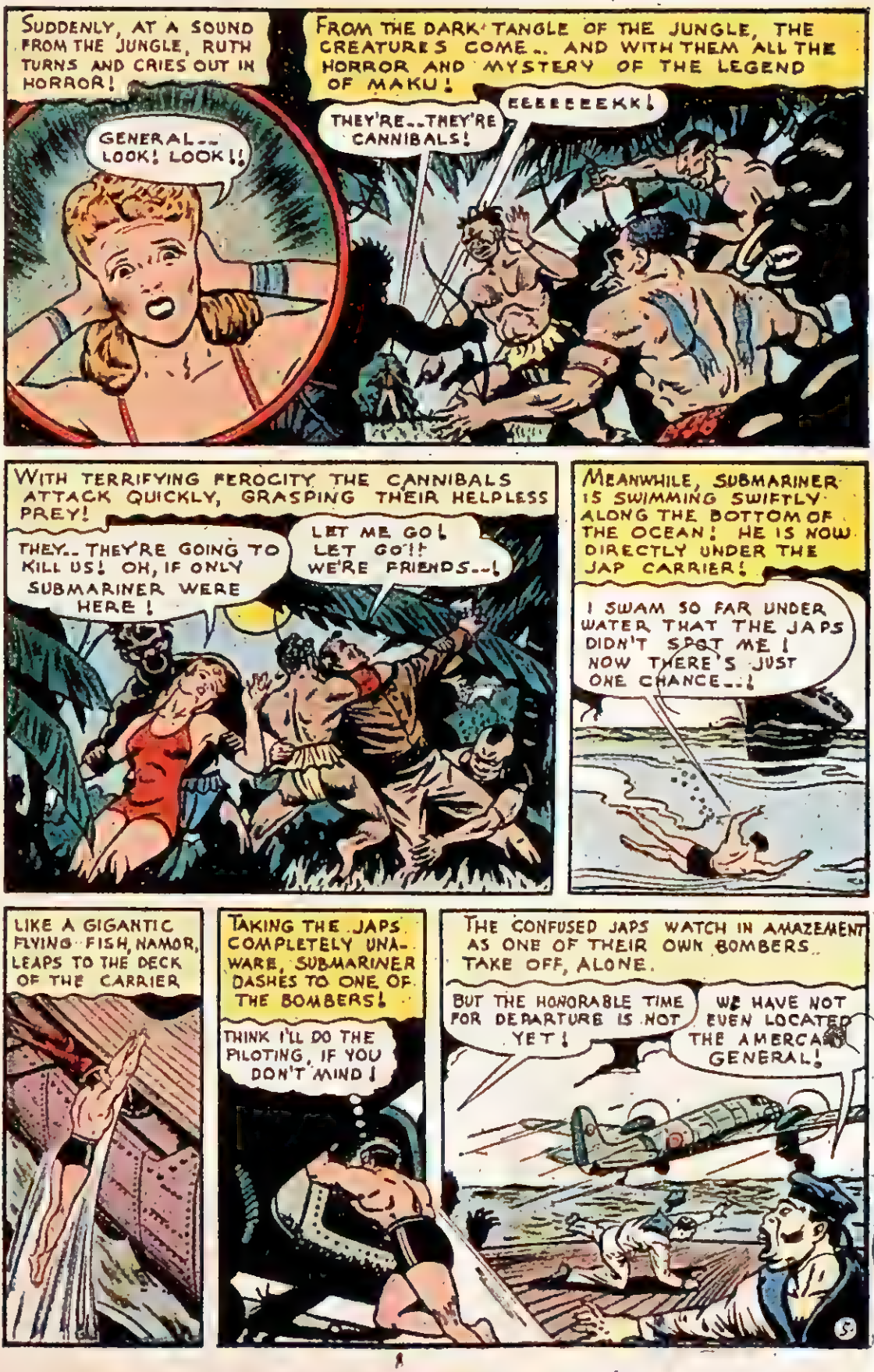
ONE OF THE DEADLY BULLTS FINDS A MARK
HOLD ON -- JUST TAKE IT EASY GET THE PLANE DOWN TO 100 FEET IF YOU CAN
OH! HE'S--HE'S REALLY HURT!
I'M--I'M WOUNDED THEY GOT ME

WITH A LAST EFFORT OF CONCENTRATION, THE WOUNDED PILOT BRINGS THE PLANE DOWN TO 100 FEET! THEN--!
THE PILOT--HE'S.. HE'S DEAD
YES--THOSE DIRTY LITTLE NIPS GOT HIM! BUT I'M TAKING OVER NOW! AND I'LL AVENGE HIS DEATH!

FIRE SPITS FROM THE ENEMY PLANES-- BUT TWO OF THE ZEROS FALL AS SUBMARINER FIGHTS BACK!

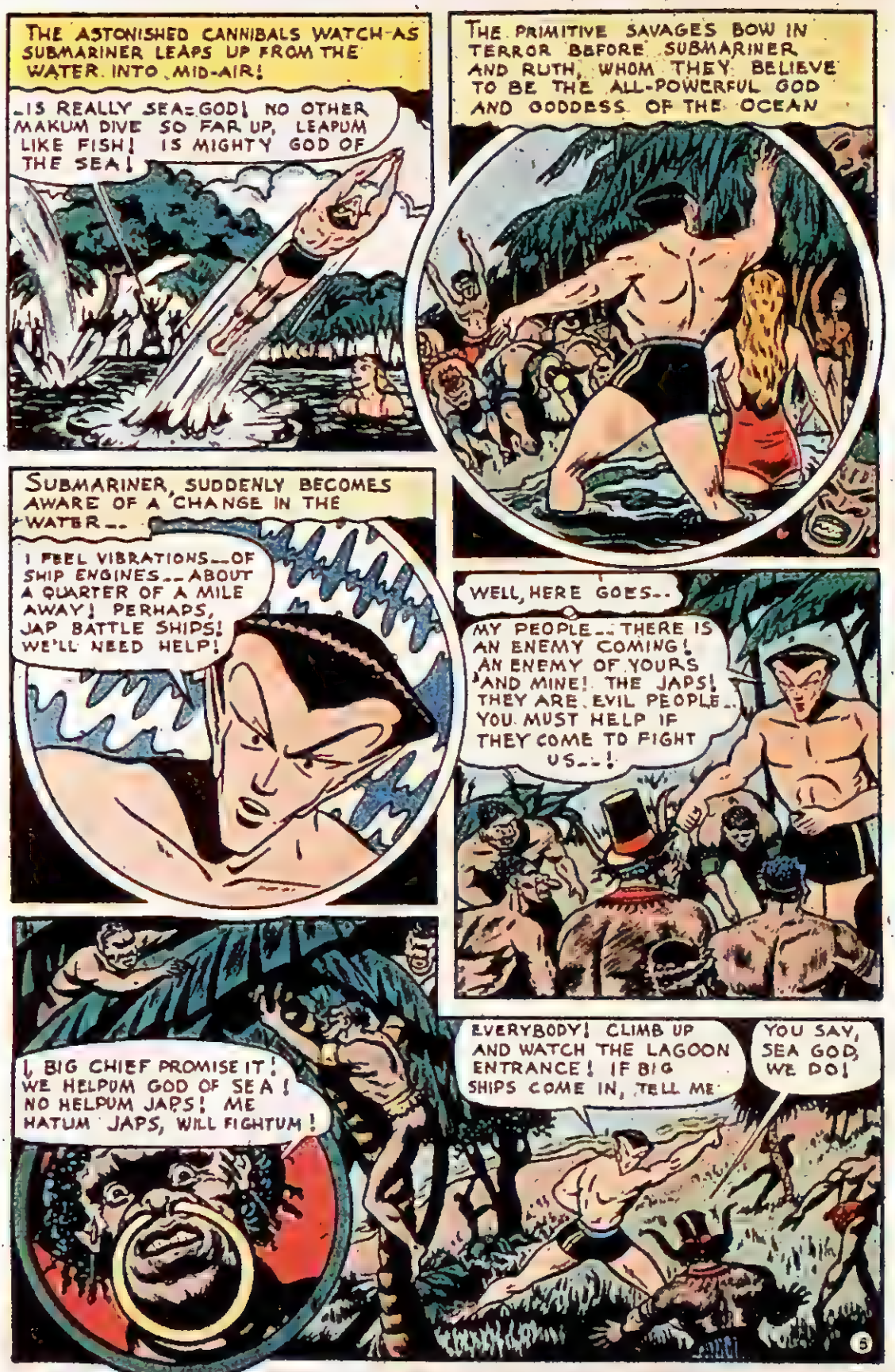

THE THIRD ZERO IS KNOCKED FROM THE SKY BY THE AVENGING NAMOR! BUT--THE AMERICAN PLANE HAS BEEN VITALLY HIT--
SUBMARINER!-- WE'LL CRASH!
TAKE IT EASY, RUTH! JUST BEFORE THE PLANE CRASHES WE'LL ALL JUMP WITH THE LIFE RAFT

THE BURNING PLANE CAREENS AT BREATHLESS SPEED TOWARD THE WATER NEAR MAKU ISLAND! SUBMARINER THROWS OUT THE RUBBER LIFE RAFT!
RUTH--! GENERAL JOHNSON-- GET READY--!
JUST BEFORE IT CARRIES INTO THE SEA, SUBMARINER LEAPS WITH RUTH AND THE GENERAL FROM THE DOOMED PLANE!
ALL OUT!
IN A FEW MOMENTS, THE THREE REACH THE FLOATING LIFE-RAFT--!
I SAVED MY SUITCASE, ANYWAY! I'M STILL GOING TO PUT THAT SHOW ON, FOR THE BOYS, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!
WHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL!
IF THAT JAP CARRIER SENDS UP BOMBERS WE WILL ALL BE KILLED-- AND THE NASTY NIPS WILL BE TRIUMPHANT!
YOU TWO WILL BE SAFE ON THE RAFT! I'LL JOIN YOU LATER! GOT SOME HUNTING TO DO!
SO LONG!
GOOD LUCK! SUBMARINER
IF I CAN ONLY GET THAT CARRIER BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE--!
AS SUBMARINER SWIMS SWIFTLY AWAY TOWARD THE JAPANESE CARRIER, RUTH AND GENERAL JOHNSON PADDLE THE RAFT TOWARD THE ISLAND
THIS LOOKS TO ME LIKE AN ESCAPE INTO DANGER
OH! WE'RE GETTING TO THE ISLAND ALL RIGHT! YOU MUST NOT BE AFRAID OF THAT SILLY STORY ABOUT CANNIBALS! IT'S PROBABLY ALL NONSENSE!
SOON, THE RAFT REACHES THE SHORE OF THE ISLAND JUNGLE!
WOW! WHAT THIS PLACE NEEDS MOST IS A GOOD LAWN MOWER! DO YOU SUPPOSE THERE'S ANYBODY AROUND?
I CERTAINLY HOPE NOT!

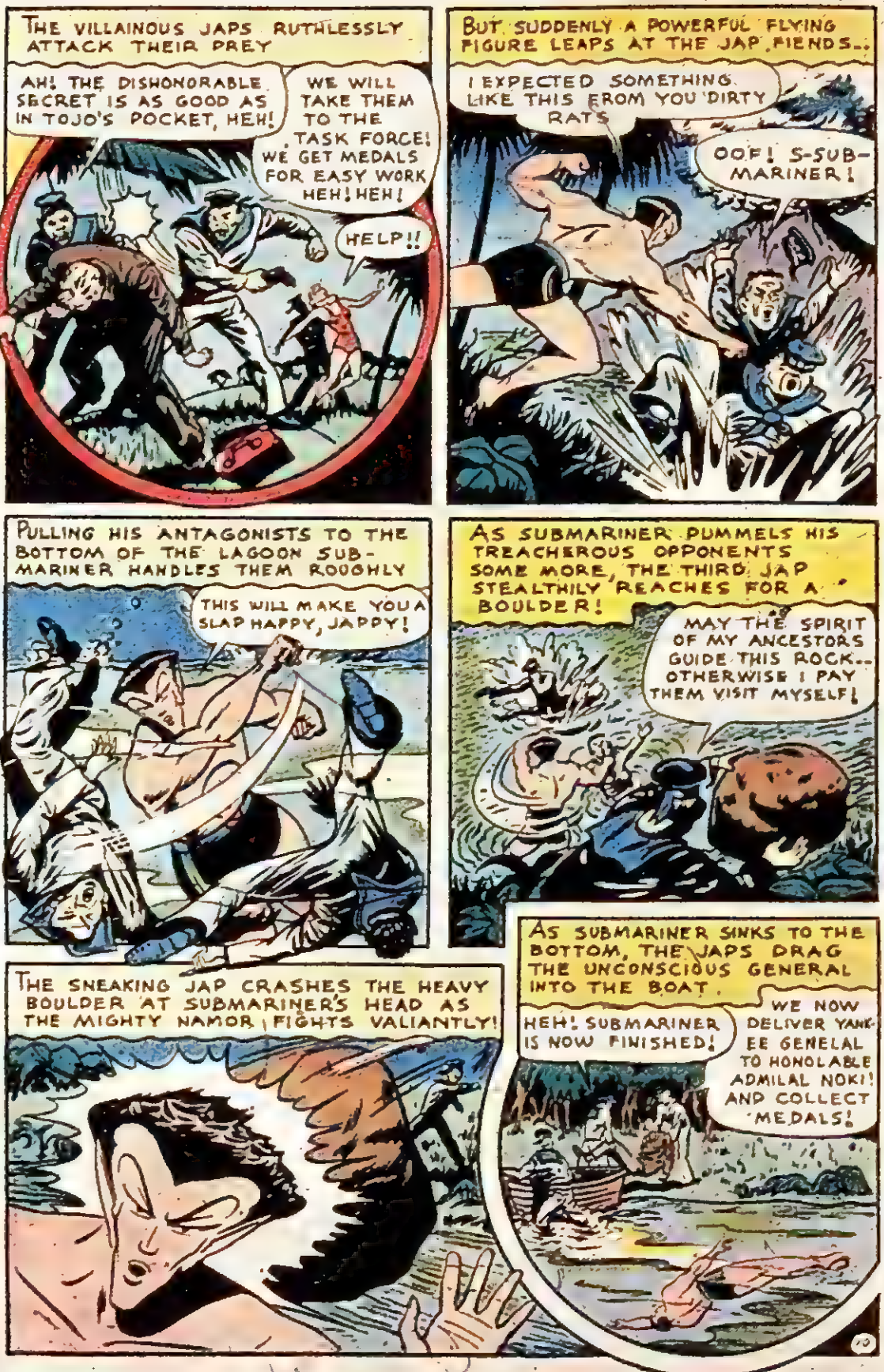

SUDDENLY, AT A SOUND FROM THE JUNGLE, RUTH TURNS AND CRIES OUT IN HORROR!
GENERAL... LOOK! LOOK!!
FROM THE DARK TANGLE OF THE JUNGLE, THE CREATURES COME... AND WITH THEM ALL THE HORROR AND MYSTERY OF THE LEGEND OF MAKU!
THEY'RE...THEY'RE CANNIBALS!
EEEEEEEKK!
WITH TERRIFYING FEROCITY THE CANNIBALS ATTACK QUICKLY, GRASPING THEIR HELPLESS PREY!
THEY.. THEY'RE GOING TO KILL US! OH, IF ONLY SUBMARINER WERE HERE!
LET ME GO! LET GO!! WE'RE FRIENDS...!
MEANWHILE, SUBMARINER IS SWIMMING SWIFTLY ALONG THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN! HE IS NOW DIRECTLY UNDER THE JAP CARRIER!
I SWAM SO FAR UNDER WATER THAT THE JAPS DIDN'T SPOT ME! NOW THERE'S JUST ONE CHANCE...!
LIKE A GIGANTIC FLYING FISH, NAMOR, LEAPS TO THE DECK OF THE CARRIER
TAKING THE JAPS COMPLETELY UNAWARE, SUBMARINER DASHES TO ONE OF THE BOMBERS!
THINK I'LL DO THE PILOTING, IF YOU DON'T MIND!
THE CONFUSED JAPS WATCH IN AMAZEMENT AS ONE OF THEIR OWN BOMBERS TAKE OFF, ALONE.
BUT THE HONORABLE TIME FOR DEPARTURE IS NOT YET!
WE HAVE NOT EVEN LOCATED THE AMERICAN GENERAL!
5

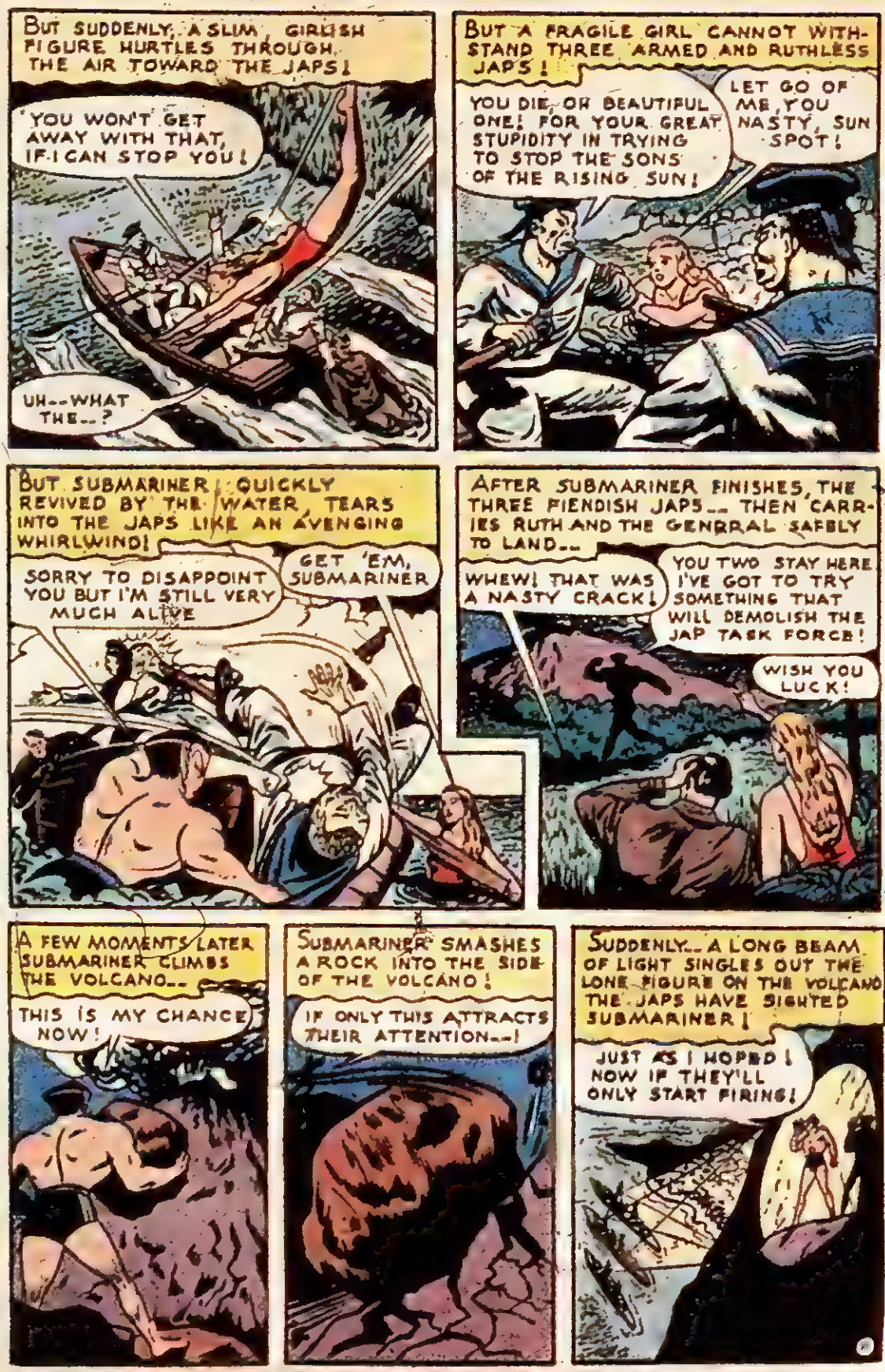
INSIDE THE BOMBER!
THOSE JAPS WILL BE EVEN MORE SURPRISED IN A MINUTE!
THE BOMBER CIRCLES OVER THE CARRIER... THEN HEADS DOWN IN A NOSE-DIVE!
IF BOMBER HITS US... HELLO, ANCESTORS!
THE BOMBER CATAPULTS DOWN FASTER AND FASTER TOWARD THE CARRIER! A LONE FIGURE DIVES FROM IT LIKE A COMET INTO THE SEA
AS THE BOMBER CRASHES HEADLONG ONTO THE CARRIER DECK, ITS BOMBS EXPLODE WITH TREMENDOUS FORCE!
BOOM!
NOW TO FIND THE GENERAL AND RUTH
MEANWHILE, ON A HIDDEN SUBMARINE SOME MILES AWAY, THE FIENDISH ADMIRAL NOKI IS TRYING TO RADIO THE DEMOLISHED CARRIER!
CARRIER DOES NOT RESPOND! THEY MUST HAVE FAILED! I MUST HAVE THE AMERICAN SECRETS!. I WILL SEND A POWERFUL TASK FORCE TO MAKU ISLAND
SUBMARINER REACHES MAKU ISLAND AFTER SEARCHING FOR THEM IN THE WATER...
THE LIFE-RAFT SHOWS THAT THEY'VE LANDED HERE! AND THESE CONFUSED FOOT PRINTS... THERE'S BEEN A STRUGGLE! THEN...WHAT TH!... A PRIMITIVE ARROW! THE KIND THAT A SAVAGE MIGHT USE!

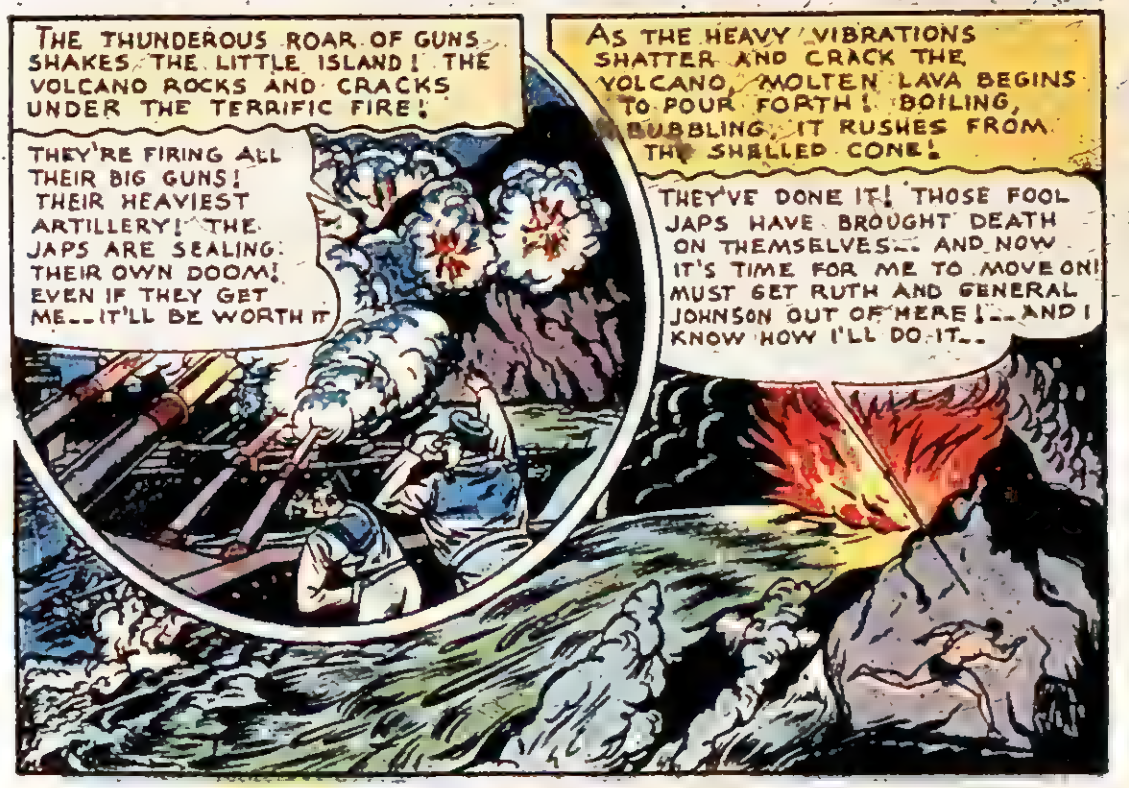
SUBMARINER PLUNGES INTO THE MOUTH OF WATER THAT HEADS FROM THE SEA INTO THE INNER LAGOON OF THE ISLAND!
SUBMARINER SWIMS THROUGH THE LARGE LAGOON WITH THE SPEED OF A LIGHTNING BOLT! THEN, A SHORT DISTANCE FROM SHORE, HE SEES--
THAT STORY ABOUT THE CANNIBALS MAY BE TRUE. THE PILOT SAID THE SAVAGES FED THEIR VICTIMS TO THE VOLCANO, THINKING IT WAS A FIRE-GOD--I MUST HURRY!
HELP! HELP!
FIRST, KILLUM WHITE ONES! THEN GIVUM TO FIRE GOD AS BIG SACRIFICE!
GREAT GARFISH! IF I MAKE A RUSH FOR RUTH AND THE GENERAL, THOSE SAVAGES, WILL RUN THEM THROUGH! THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER WAY--!
FEARLESSLY SUBMARINER FACES THE FEROCIOUS CHIEF OF THE CANNIBALS
UH!--WHO YOU, WHITE MAN? WE KILL YOU TOO-- MAKE MUCH BIG SACRIFICE TO FIRE GOD!
I'VE GOT AN IDEA, IF ONLY HE FALLS FOR IT!
WAIT A MINUTE CHIEF! DON'T MAKE ANY MISTAKE YOU WILL BE SORRY FOR
CHIEF, I AM A GOD AS POWERFUL AS THE FIRE GOD--I AM GOD-OF-THE-SEA
YOU!-- GOD OF THE SEA! BUT YOU SHOW ME--MAKUM BIG PROOF!
YES, I'LL PROVE IT TO YOU! AND SO WILL THE GIRL-- SHE TOO IS GODDESS OF THE SEA!
AFTER RUTH DRESSES INTO HER COSTUME SHE CLIMBS THE HIGHEST TREE!
YES! IS SURE GODDESS OF SEAS!

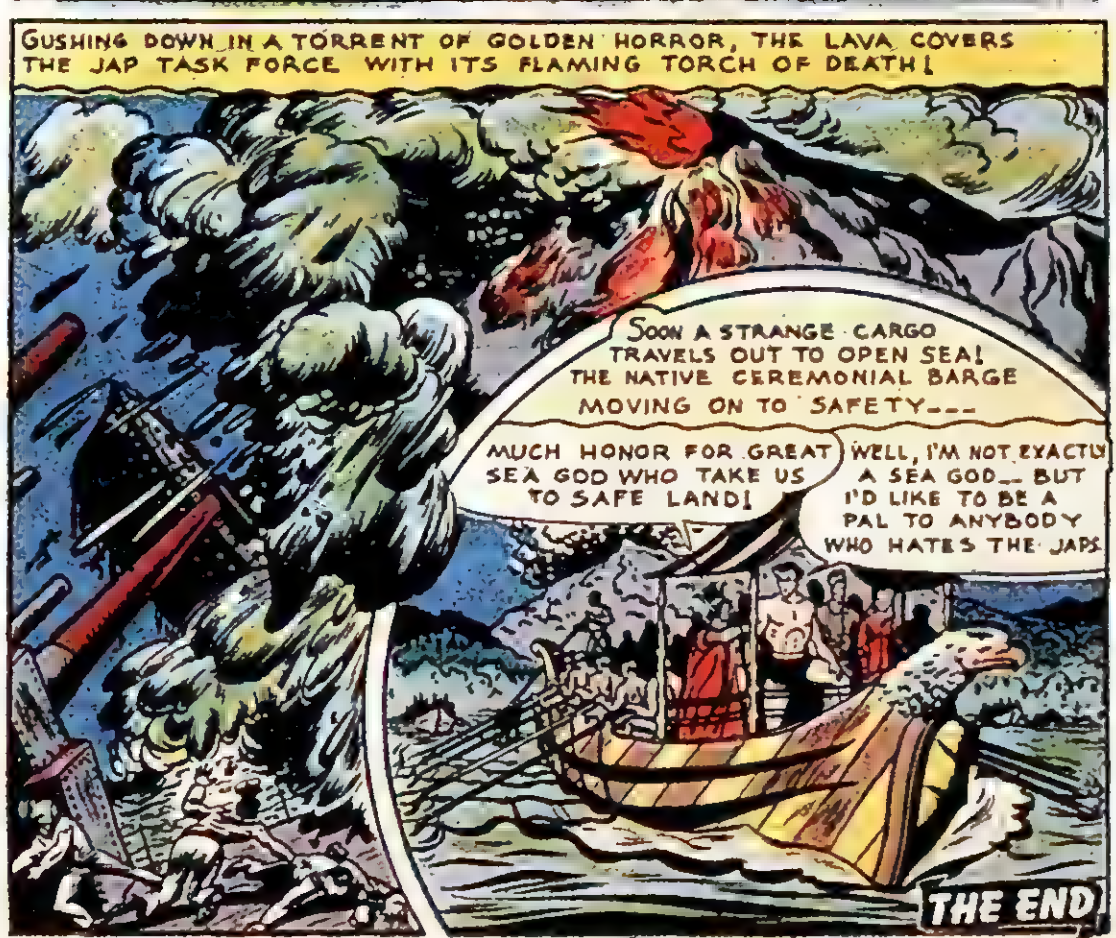

THE ASTONISHED CANNIBALS WATCH AS SUBMARINER LEAPS UP FROM THE WATER INTO MID-AIR!
-IS REALLY SEA-GOD! NO OTHER MAKUM DIVE SO FAR UP, LEAPUM LIKE FISH! IS MIGHTY GOD OF THE SEA!
THE PRIMITIVE SAVAGES BOW IN TERROR BEFORE SUBMARINER AND RUTH, WHOM THEY BELIEVE TO BE THE ALL-POWERFUL GOD AND GODDESS OF THE OCEAN
SUBMARINER, SUDDENLY BECOMES AWARE OF A CHANGE IN THE WATER--
I FEEL VIBRATIONS--OF SHIP ENGINES--ABOUT A QUARTER OF A MILE AWAY! PERHAPS, JAP BATTLE SHIPS! WE'LL NEED HELP!
WELL, HERE GOES--
MY PEOPLE--THERE IS AN ENEMY COMING! AN ENEMY OF YOURS AND MINE! THE JAPS! THEY ARE EVIL PEOPLE--YOU MUST HELP IF THEY COME TO FIGHT US--!
I, BIG CHIEF PROMISE IT! WE HELPUM GOD OF SEA! NO HELPUM JAPS! ME HATUM JAPS, WILL FIGHTUM!
EVERYBODY! CLIMB UP AND WATCH THE LAGOON ENTRANCE! IF BIG SHIPS COME IN, TELL ME
YOU SAY, SEA GOD, WE DO!
6

AFTER ONLY A MOMENT, THE SHRILL VOICE OF A WATCHING SAVAGE PIERCES THE QUIET JUNGLE NIGHT...
THEY COME! BIG SHIPS COMING IN LAGOON! HAVE MUCH GUNS, HAVE MANY MEN!
GENERAL JOHNSON, TAKE RUTH WITH YOU AND GO BACK INTO THE JUNGLE! THOSE JAPS ARE AFTER YOU! I'LL TRY TO HANDLE THEM HERE... ALONE!
BUT AT THAT MOMENT THE MIGHTY JAP TASK FORCE COMES INTO SIGHT... ENTERING THE LAGOON! HOW CAN SUBMARINER CONQUER THIS MIGHTY ARMADA? PERHAPS FOR THE FIRST TIME THE POWERFUL SUBMARINER WILL BE DEFEATED!
GREAT GARFISH! BATTLESHIPS... CRUISERS... DESTROYERS...! AT LEAST THE GENERAL WILL BE SAFE FOR AWHILE!
BUT SUBMARINER CANNOT KNOW THAT THE WILY NIPS HAVE RESORTED TO TRICKERY TO DECEIVE HIM!
HEH! HEH! WE WON'T BE SEEN HERE!
THIS IS THE MOST UNLIKELY PLACE FOR THEM TO HIDE SO-OH! WE LOOK FOR THEM HERE
ABANDONING THEIR SECRET BOAT, THE FIENDISH JAPS GLIDE THROUGH THE JUNGLE!
HEH! HEH! THERE HE IS... THE AMELICAN GENELAL! WITH HIM GIRL!
WE GET THEM BOTH! HONORABLE HOKI WILL PROMOTE US FOR THIS!

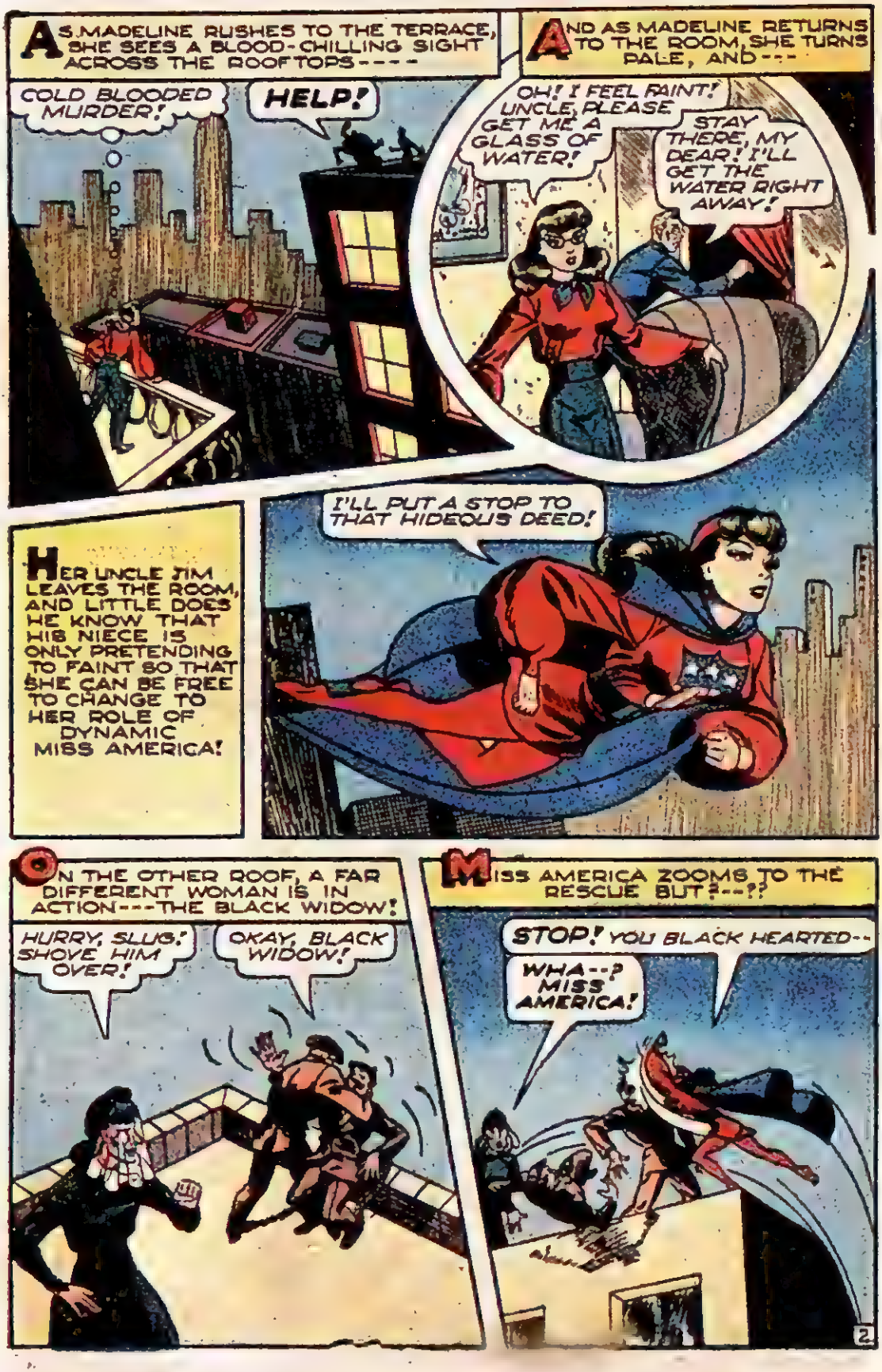

THE VILLAINOUS JAPS RUTHLESSLY ATTACK THEIR PREY
AH! THE DISHONORABLE SECRET IS AS GOOD AS IN TOJO'S POCKET, HEH!
WE WILL TAKE THEM TO THE TASK FORCE! WE GET MEDALS FOR EASY WORK HEH! HEH!
HELP!!
BUT SUDDENLY A POWERFUL FLYING FIGURE LEAPS AT THE JAP FIENDS..
I EXPECTED SOMETHING LIKE THIS FROM YOU DIRTY RATS
OOF! S-SUB-MARINER!
PULLING HIS ANTAGONISTS TO THE BOTTOM OF THE LAGOON SUB-MARINER HANDLES THEM ROUGHLY
THIS WILL MAKE YOU A SLAP HAPPY, JAPPY!
AS SUBMARINER PUMMELS HIS TREACHEROUS OPPONENTS SOME MORE, THE THIRD JAP STEALTHILY REACHES FOR A BOULDER!
MAY THE SPIRIT OF MY ANCESTORS GUIDE THIS ROCK.. OTHERWISE I PAY THEM VISIT MYSELF!
THE SNEAKING JAP CRASHES THE HEAVY BOULDER AT SUBMARINER'S HEAD AS THE MIGHTY NAMOR FIGHTS VALIANTLY!
AS SUBMARINER SINKS TO THE BOTTOM, THE JAPS DRAG THE UNCONSCIOUS GENERAL INTO THE BOAT.
HEH! SUBMARINER IS NOW FINISHED!
WE NOW DELIVER YANK-EE GENELAL TO HONOLABLE ADMILAL NOKI! AND COLLECT MEDALS!

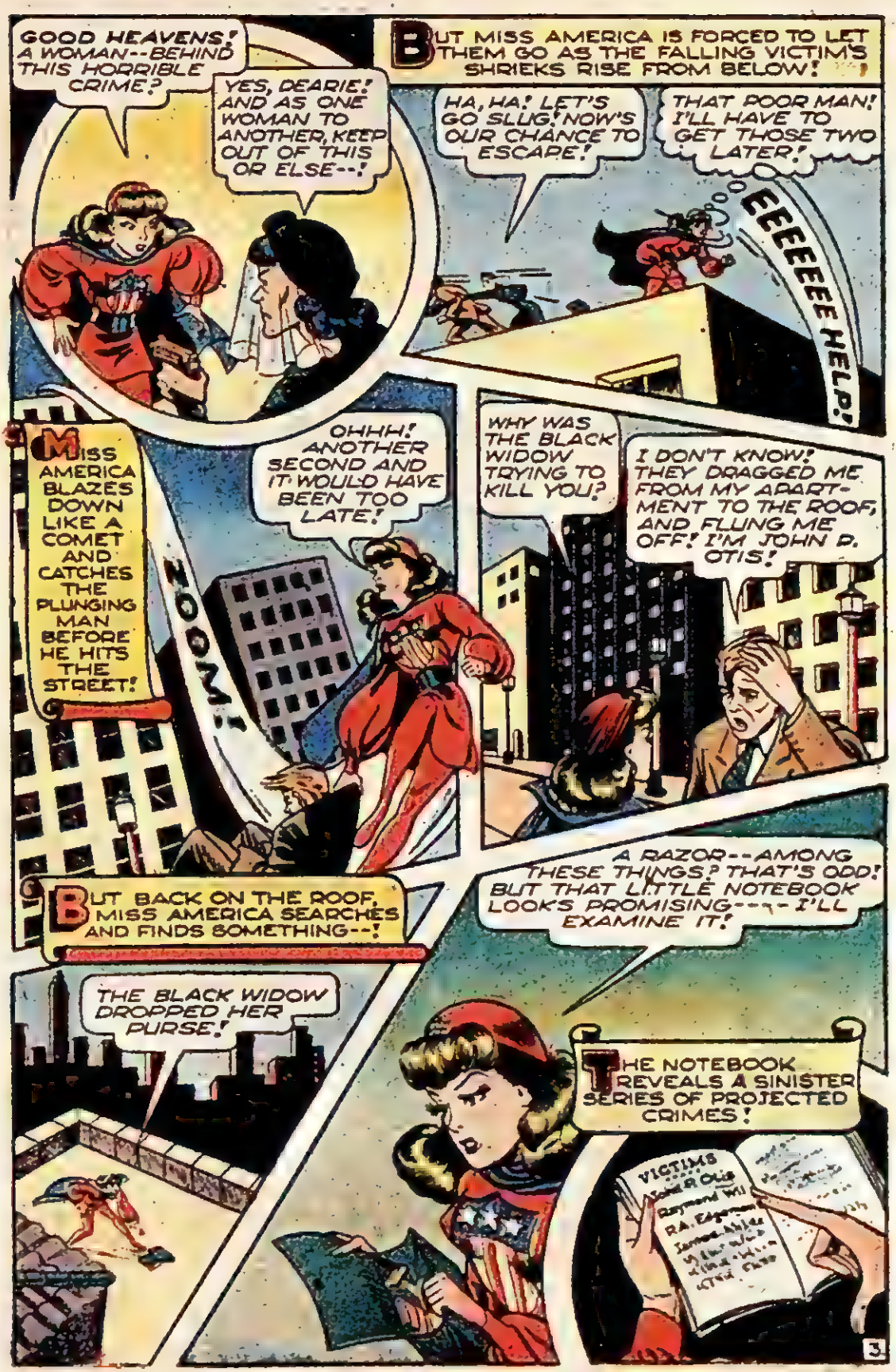

BUT SUDDENLY, A SLIM, GIRLISH FIGURE HURTLES THROUGH THE AIR TOWARD THE JAPS!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THAT, IF I CAN STOP YOU!
UH--WHAT THE--?
BUT A FRAGILE GIRL CANNOT WITHSTAND THREE ARMED AND RUTHLESS JAPS!
YOU DIE, OR BEAUTIFUL ONE! FOR YOUR GREAT STUPIDITY IN TRYING TO STOP THE SONS OF THE RISING SUN!
LET GO OF ME, YOU NASTY, SUN SPOT!
BUT SUBMARINER, QUICKLY REVIVED BY THE WATER, TEARS INTO THE JAPS LIKE AN AVENGING WHIRLWIND!
SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU BUT I'M STILL VERY MUCH ALIVE
GET 'EM, SUBMARINER
AFTER SUBMARINER FINISHES, THE THREE FIENDISH JAPS-- THEN CARRIES RUTH AND THE GENRRAL SAFELY TO LAND--
WHEW! THAT WAS A NASTY CRACK!
YOU TWO STAY HERE I'VE GOT TO TRY SOMETHING THAT WILL DEMOLISH THE JAP TASK FORCE!
WISH YOU LUCK!
A FEW MOMENTS LATER SUBMARINER CLIMBS THE VOLCANO--
THIS IS MY CHANCE NOW!
SUBMARINER SMASHES A ROCK INTO THE SIDE OF THE VOLCANO!
IF ONLY THIS ATTRACTS THEIR ATTENTION--!
SUDDENLY-- A LONG BEAM OF LIGHT SINGLES OUT THE LONE FIGURE ON THE VOLCANO THE JAPS HAVE SIGHTED SUBMARINER!
JUST AS I HOPED! NOW IF THEY'LL ONLY START FIRING!


THE THUNDEROUS ROAR OF GUNS SHAKES THE LITTLE ISLAND! THE VOLCANO ROCKS AND CRACKS UNDER THE TERRIFIC FIRE!
THEY'RE FIRING ALL THEIR BIG GUNS! THEIR HEAVIEST ARTILLERY! THE JAPS ARE SEALING THEIR OWN DOOM! EVEN IF THEY GET ME--IT'LL BE WORTH IT
AS THE HEAVY VIBRATIONS SHATTER AND CRACK THE VOLCANO, MOLTEN LAVA BEGINS TO POUR FORTH! BOILING, BUBBLING, IT RUSHES FROM THE SHELLED CONE!
THEY'VE DONE IT! THOSE FOOL JAPS HAVE BROUGHT DEATH ON THEMSELVES--AND NOW IT'S TIME FOR ME TO MOVE ON! MUST GET RUTH AND GENERAL JOHNSON OUT OF HERE!--AND I KNOW HOW I'LL DO IT--


GUSHING DOWN IN A TORRENT OF GOLDEN HORROR, THE LAVA COVERS THE JAP TASK FORCE WITH ITS FLAMING TORCH OF DEATH!
SOON A STRANGE CARGO TRAVELS OUT TO OPEN SEA! THE NATIVE CEREMONIAL BARGE MOVING ON TO SAFETY---
MUCH HONOR FOR GREAT SEA GOD WHO TAKE US TO SAFE LAND!
WELL, I'M NOT EXACTLY A SEA GOD-- BUT I'D LIKE TO BE A PAL TO ANYBODY WHO HATES THE JAPS
THE END

Miss AMERICA
WHO WILL BE THE BLACK WIDOW'S NEXT VICTIM? WHY DOES THIS SINISTER CREATURE TRACK DOWN HER VICTIMS? FOLLOW MISS AMERICA AS SHE TAKES UP THE TRAIL OF THE "BLACK WIDOW"
MADELINE JOYCE IS SPENDING A QUIET EVENING AT HOME WITH HER UNCLE JIM, WHEN SUDDENLY---
EEEEEEEE! HELP!
GOOD HEAVENS! WHAT'S THAT!
A SCREAM! FROM OUTSIDE!

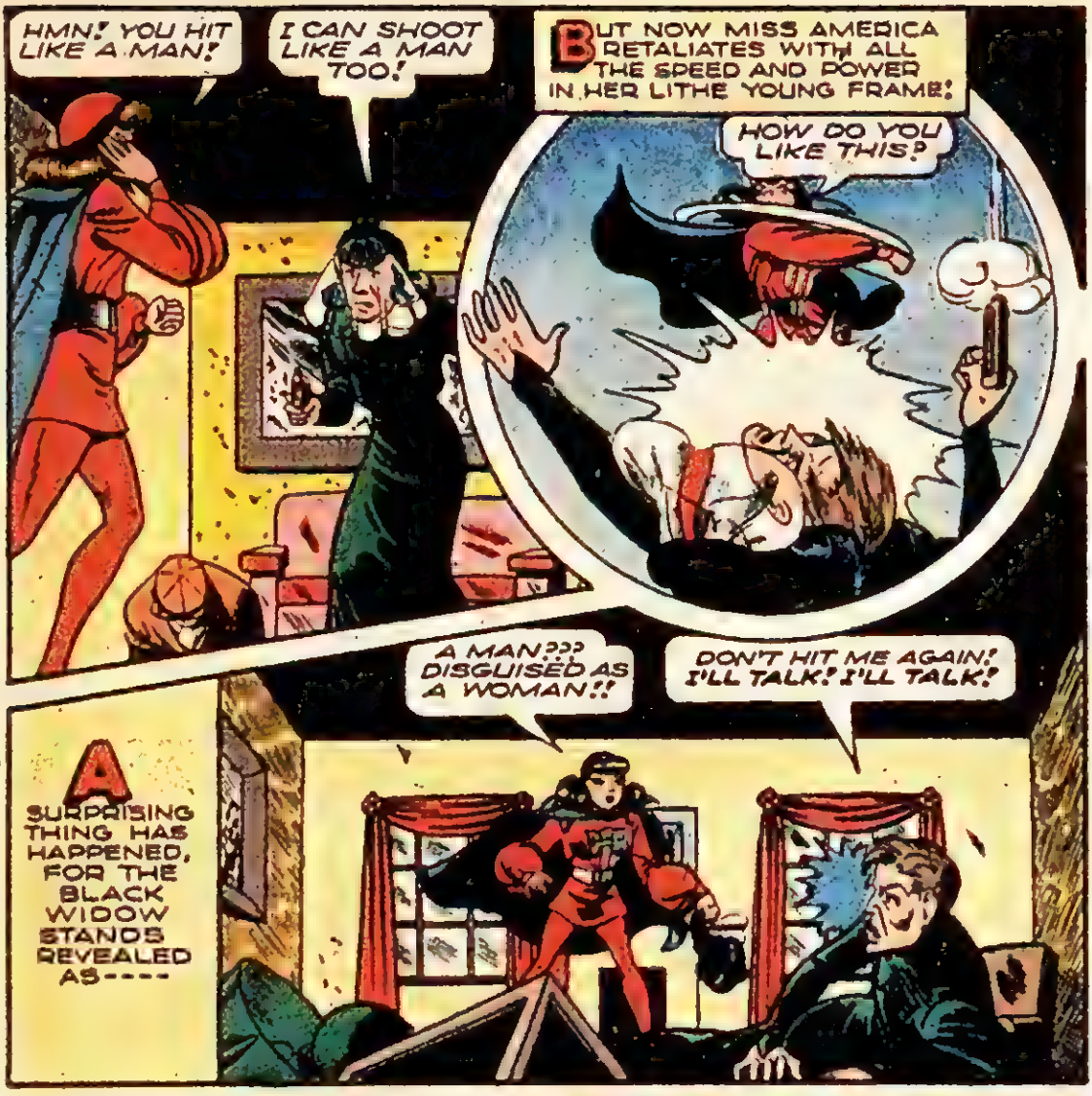

AS MADELINE RUSHES TO THE TERRACE, SHE SEES A BLOOD-CHILLING SIGHT ACROSS THE ROOFTOPS----
COLD BLOODED MURDER!
HELP!
AND AS MADELINE RETURNS TO THE ROOM, SHE TURNS PALE, AND---
OH! I FEEL FAINT! UNCLE, PLEASE GET ME A GLASS OF WATER!
STAY THERE, MY DEAR! I'LL GET THE WATER RIGHT AWAY!
HER UNCLE JIM LEAVES THE ROOM, AND LITTLE DOES HE KNOW THAT HIS NIECE IS ONLY PRETENDING TO FAINT SO THAT SHE CAN BE FREE TO CHANGE TO HER ROLE OF DYNAMIC MISS AMERICA!
I'LL PUT A STOP TO THAT HIDEOUS DEED!
ON THE OTHER ROOF, A FAR DIFFERENT WOMAN IS IN ACTION---THE BLACK WIDOW!
HURRY, SLUG! SHOVE HIM OVER!
OKAY, BLACK WIDOW!
MISS AMERICA ZOOMS TO THE RESCUE BUT?--?!
STOP! YOU BLACK HEARTED--
WHA--? MISS AMERICA!
2


GOOD HEAVENS! A WOMAN--BEHIND THIS HORRIBLE CRIME?
YES, DEARIE! AND AS ONE WOMAN TO ANOTHER, KEEP OUT OF THIS OR ELSE--!
BUT MISS AMERICA IS FORCED TO LET THEM GO AS THE FALLING VICTIM'S SHRIEKS RISE FROM BELOW!
HA, HA! LET'S GO SLUG! NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO ESCAPE!
THAT POOR MAN! I'LL HAVE TO GET THOSE TWO LATER!
EEEEEEE HELP!
MISS AMERICA BLAZES DOWN LIKE A COMET AND CATCHES THE PLUNGING MAN BEFORE HE HITS THE STREET!
OHHH! ANOTHER SECOND AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN TOO LATE!
WHOOM!
WHY WAS THE BLACK WIDOW TRYING TO KILL YOU?
I DON'T KNOW! THEY DRAGGED ME FROM MY APARTMENT TO THE ROOF, AND FLUNG ME OFF! I'M JOHN D. OTIS!
BUT BACK ON THE ROOF, MISS AMERICA SEARCHES AND FINDS SOMETHING--!
THE BLACK WIDOW DROPPED HER PURSE!
A RAZOR--AMONG THESE THINGS? THAT'S ODD! BUT THAT LITTLE NOTEBOOK LOOKS PROMISING--I'LL EXAMINE IT!
THE NOTEBOOK REVEALS A SINISTER SERIES OF PROJECTED CRIMES!
VICTIMS
3

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY THE BLACK WIDOW IS AFTER THESE MEN! BUT AT LEAST I KNOW MY VICTIMS---AND THE NEXT ONE IS RAYMOND WIL! I'LL FLY TO HIS HOME!
MISS AMERICA BARELY ARRIVES IN TIME, FOR THE BLACK WIDOW IS ALREADY AT HER DEADLY WORK!
UP WITH HIM, SLUG!
HEY! THAT MISS AMERICA AGAIN!
BUT AS MISS AMERICA TURNS TO THE BLACK WIDOW---
YES, AND THIS TIME I'M MAD!
WAIT! YOU CAN'T STRIKE A WOMAN!
WHY NOT? I'M A WOMAN TOO!
BUT SLUG HAS HAD TIME TO RECOVER AND PUTS IN A COWARDLY BLOW FROM BEHIND!
BAM!
4

I TOLD YOU NOT TO INTERFERE WITH THE BLACK WIDOW!
YOU FIEND! WHY ARE YOU AFTER THESE MEN?
THE WIDOW CASTS A BURNING FIRE BRAND BEHIND HER AS SHE LEAVES!
NEVER MIND! YOU'LL NEVER KNOW! HA! HA!
WHERE'S YOUR WIFE? WHY DOESN'T SOMEONE COME?
THERE'S NO ONE IN THE HOUSE BUT US! --THE FLAMES!!
AS A PIECE OF BURNING WOOD FALLS CLOSE BY, MISS AMERICA BURNS HER ROPES AWAY AND---
ZOOMS TO SAFETY!
YOU SAVED US BOTH!
I'LL UNTIE YOU AND LEAVE! I MUST GET THE BLACK WIDOW!
ZOOM!
GOOD THING I FOUND THIS NOTEBOOK! THE NEXT VICTIM IS PAUL EDGEMONT, IN THE SUBURBS!
5.

MEANWHILE, THE BLACK WIDOW HAS ALREADY FOUND HER THIRD VICTIM!
HELP! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
KILL YOU, SUCKER! HA, HA, HA!
WITH WHAT? I HAVE THE KNIFE!
HUH? WHA--??
CRASH!
ZOOM!
STOP HER, SLUG! TEAR HER APART!
ARE YOU KIDDING? UGH!
WITH SURPRISING STRENGTH FOR A WOMAN, THE BLACK WIDOW LASHES A POWERFUL BLOW AT MISS AMERICA!
IT'S WOMAN TO WOMAN AGAIN, BLACK WIDOW! DON'T PULL THAT CRY-BABY ACT AGAIN!
NO! THIS TIME I'LL GIVE YOU A SURPRISE!
BOP
6


HMN! YOU HIT LIKE A MAN!
I CAN SHOOT LIKE A MAN TOO!
BUT NOW MISS AMERICA RETALIATES WITH ALL THE SPEED AND POWER IN HER LITHE YOUNG FRAME!
HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS?
A SURPRISING THING HAS HAPPENED, FOR THE BLACK WIDOW STANDS REVEALED AS----
A MAN??? DISGUISED AS A WOMAN!!
DON'T HIT ME AGAIN! I'LL TALK! I'LL TALK!

MY RACKET WAS TO BUMP OFF GUYS AND MAKE IT LOOK LIKE AN ACCIDENT! THEN THEIR WIVES WOULD COLLECT THEIR INSURANCE! ALL THESE WIVES HATED THEIR HUSBANDS!
I SEE! NO WONDER YOU USED THE NAME BLACK WIDOW! JAIL IS THE PLACE FOR YOU!

THE NEXT MORNING, AT HOME---
DO YOU FEEL BETTER, MADELINE? I WAS WORRIED WHEN I CAME BACK WITH THE WATER AND FOUND YOU HAD GONE TO BED! BY THE WAY, MISS AMERICA UNMASKED THE BLACK WIDOW! WHAT A GIRL!
THE END

HUNCH DRUNK

THE top kick was giving Archie a going over when I got into the shell of a bombed building, where we'd set up a temporary repair depot. Bill Hull, the top kick, was a tough guy. I guess he had to be.

"Trouble with you," Bill was explaining to Archie, with a good deal of emphasis on nouns I can't repeat, "is, you're moonstruck."

Archie was a knobby, bumpy guy. He had big feet that seemed always in his way. "Aw, you're always pickin' on me," he complained. "What did I do now?"

"What didn't you do!" Bill Hull bawled, edging around Archie like a fighting rooster. "I send you out to pick up the general. What do you do? Take a look at the sky. Any half-wit could see it was getting ready to rain buckets. *You've* got a hunch it's going to clear up! What do you do? You—"

"Took a jeep," Archie supplied unwisely. "He likes jeeps—"

"Not on a rainy day," the sarge says, cutting in himself now. "Another boner like that and, blooie!"

I was in fatigues by the time they called a truce. Archie mooched over to where I was getting ready to pull the front wheel off a big prime mover. The bearings were bad and we needed everything we had to keep supplies rolling up to the front.

"That big bum!" Archie growled. "One of these days this mess is gonna be over. When I meet that guy I—I'll bust him wide open!"

I jacked up the front of the p.m. "Let's get started. We've got work to do. This mess is a long way from being over. Go over to Wilkens and get a set of front axle bearings for this job. Remember, we've got a load of stuff going up front tonight."

Archie moved off. I had the front end of the p.m. lifted and was working on the wheel lugs by the time he came back with the bearings. Before we could start, the sarge showed up again.

"The general's car's got a miss," he announced. "One of you give it a look-see."

Archie got up. "Okay," he muttered. "I'll be back, Ted."

I figured it was a chance to sort of vindicate himself. I got busy. This stuff had gone through blazes. Part of our last push had been desert. Some of it had been mountains, and plenty of times it had rained. Roads were wiped out between our own air force and what the enemy had done when they packed up and started home. It was work I liked and took pride in. I liked to hear a motor run right.

I kept busy all morning, too busy to wonder how Archie was making out, although he knew his stuff and I didn't have to worry about him doing what was right. Unless he got one of those hunches of his. Those usually meant trouble.

I didn't even remember him till afternoon. It was after chow-time when I got back on the job. The p.m. was out and ready to roll, two recons were tuned up and greased. Three ton-and-a-half jobs had come in off the road. One of them had been hit hard. I shoved that job outside the building, over to the side. And it was out here I found Archie. *And* the sarge. *And* the general's staff car!

Right away I smelled trouble. I'd have ducked but Bill Hull saw me and bawled for me to come over. "This—this imitation mechanic has got the general's car tied up for the duration! All it needed was the motor tuned up. What does he do? He pulls the carb assembly off. He tries to put it back on and snaps a stud!" Bill spun on Archie, who was looking green around the gills. "Why, you—you—"

"Why monkey with the carb?" I pushed between them, although it wasn't safe. I took a look under the hood. The rear stud was snapped right off, close to the base. "It'll have to come off. It won't take long."

"It won't take long! But it wasn't necessary—"

"The motor was missing!" Archie's voice sounded like sandpaper on a rusty hunk of metal. "I—I figured it oughta be fixed—"

"You fixed it! You—!"

Archie blurted, "I had a hunch—"

"Stop it!" Bill Hull yelped. "You're finished. Go over to the mess shack. See if you can get a hunch over those dirty dishes! A hunch they need washing!"

I felt sorry for Archie but at the same time I felt sorry for myself. I had to yank the carburetor assembly off and cut the old stud out, rethread the hole and fit a new stud. It took

time and I had to drop everything else. It got me a little hot around the collar.

It was done by the middle of the afternoon. By evening I'd got two other jobs ready to roll and by then it was chow-time again. Afterward Bill Hull came around to tell us we had to hit the road. "We've got a load of supplies to go up front. Tonight. That's a job for you guys while you're resting!"

Well, that's army life. A guy doesn't kick because his buddies are up front waiting for those supplies. I knew Archie would be relieved of K.P., too, because just before we left a couple of tank destroyers limped in. He'd have to go to work on them.

There were four of us in the convoy that night. We had two two-and-a-half-ton jobs with machine guns mounted in the cab, and two prime movers. You can't ever tell out here what's going to happen. It might be Jerry or it might be a half dozen Mark IV's looking for trouble. Can't ever tell when or where they're coming from. It had happened before and would happen again.

We were getting ready to roll when Archie showed up from the direction of the mess shack. "Fine thing," he growled. "I get dishpan hands over there. But for once they're clean. Now I've got to go to work on a couple of destroyers. Hull's rubbing it in, that's what!" Archie looked the convoy over. "You got an escort?"

"We don't need one."

"Says who? Sarge Hull?"

"We're armed. Not much chance of running into trouble!"

WHICH just goes to show how wrong a guy can be in this business. We hit the road an hour later. It was tough going. A lot of it was uphill. We must have been gone an hour, maybe more, when it happened.

The three of them came pounding out of the dark from the side. German tanks. Smoke and flame spitting from their guns. It happened so fast I don't think any of us knew what it was all about. The lead truck took a hit that turned her over. Davies and Wilson were in the p.m. following, and then came Wright and I in the other p.m. and the second two-and-a-half with the machine gun.

Now we were blocked. We couldn't go back. We couldn't get past those tanks, because they were coming in fan-shaped. The road was full of curves, and they probably figured on a larger convoy, planned to finish the whole string and get away. Where they came from is a mystery.

Gates and Sumner, in back of us, opened up with the machine gun. Shells were ploughing into the bank beside us. One exploded so close it made me blind for a second. Wright tumbled out with his rifle and dived for the woods. I went out the other side, caught sight of Wilson doing the same thing from the p.m. in front of us. A second later a shell zipped into the two-and-a-half, went off with a wham that almost blew the top off the world.

There wasn't much we could do. One of those tanks started ploughing in along the side of the road. The rend of metal was almost as bad as the sound of bullets sinking into human flesh. It made me sick. The rumble of the motors shook the ground and the smell of exhaust fumes filled the air, tainted with the stink of powder. Then there was another smashing report. . . .

THEN there was another. Almost in front of me. A shell hit the German square, went off with a livid flash of light. The smashing explosion made my ears sing. A beam of light cut into the gully, shone on the tanks now trying to maneuver around and get out of the trap. Again there was the roar of a shot. From the valley toward which we'd been moving when we were intercepted. Again a crushing report, livid, pinkish flame. . . .

It seemed like an hour before there was comparative quiet again. Two of the tanks were blown wide open. Not a chance of anyone living inside them.

We came out of the weeds and bushes just as two tank destroyers rolled cautiously up. Our destroyers! Boy, my heart just about went out through the top of my head.

The turret on the nearest one opened and the guy sticking his shoulders out was followed by a knobby body.

Archie! He was grinning from ear to ear. "Everybody happy?" he yipped. "Hey, Ted—"

"Okay," I yelled back. "Check the front truck and see about the guys in it!"

We got organized finally. No one was badly hurt. Archie said: "I got those destroyers running fast! Had to convince the sarge I knew my onions. And not the K.P. kind, either."

"He had a hunch," the Sarge admitted, coming up out of the dark. "Don't tell 'em, Archie. They know. You had a hunch they were going to run into three German tanks!"

Archie looked hurt. "Well . . . I told the sarge that—aw, Heck! What's the difference? Gee, a guy can't even be psychic around this outfit without getting the raspberry!"

THE END

THE PATRIOT
ON FAR FLUNG BATTLE-FRONTS, THE EVIL FORCES OF FACISM ARE LEARNING EXACTLY HOW MUCH LIBERTY MEANS TO FREE PEOPLE---YET ONE NAZI FAILED TO HEED THAT LESSON, AND WHEN THIS TYPICAL MURDEROUS BRUTE ATTEMPTS TO USE THE VERY SYMBOL OF FREEDOM TO WARD OFF CAPTURE BY THE PATRIOT---THEN LEARNS A FATAL LESSON--- WHEN---
MISS LIBERTY TAKES A HAND!

SIRENS WAIL THE NEWS OF A BREAK AT AN AMERICAN CAMP FOR NAZI WAR PRISONERS--!
WOOOOO OOOOO

AHG-GH!
DIE, AMERICAN SWHWEINDER AMERIKANER HAFF DISCOVERED MINE ESHCAPE! I MUST GET ODDER CLOTHES--- DIS PRISON UNIFORMS DANGEROUS!

FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD -- ANOTHER LIFELESS BODY BEARS MUTE WITNESS TO THE FEROCITY AND DEADLY DESPERATION OF THE ESCAPING NAZI!

HA! DOT FOOL STOPS TO GIVE ME A LIFT UNDT NOW I HAFF HIS CLOTHES --- IT VILL BE HARDT FOR DEM TO RECOGNIZE ME!

--FLASH! -- THE NAZI KILLER HAS BEEN REPORTED PROWLING THE WATERFRONT --- SEVERAL EXCITED CALLERS PHONED THAT HE WAS SEEN NEAR THE BATTERY -- POLICE HAVE THROWN A CORDON ---

ESCAPING NAZI KILLS THIRD

EXTRA!

POLICE CLOSE IN NAZI KILLER!

NAZI KILLS

-- AND JEFF MACE, "THE PATRIOT" FINDS HIMSELF FAR UPTOWN AT THE MOMENT THAT NEWSFLASH SINGS OVER THE AIR!

AND ME MILES AWAY AT A TIME LIKE THIS --- NEXT STOP, THE BATTERY --- HERE I GO!

FLOYD

AS RADIO AND NEWSPAPERS BLARE THE END OF THE BLOODY KILLER'S TRAIL, WE LOOK IN ON AN OLD FRIEND WHO WILL SOON BE ENMESHED BY THE TURN OF EVENTS!

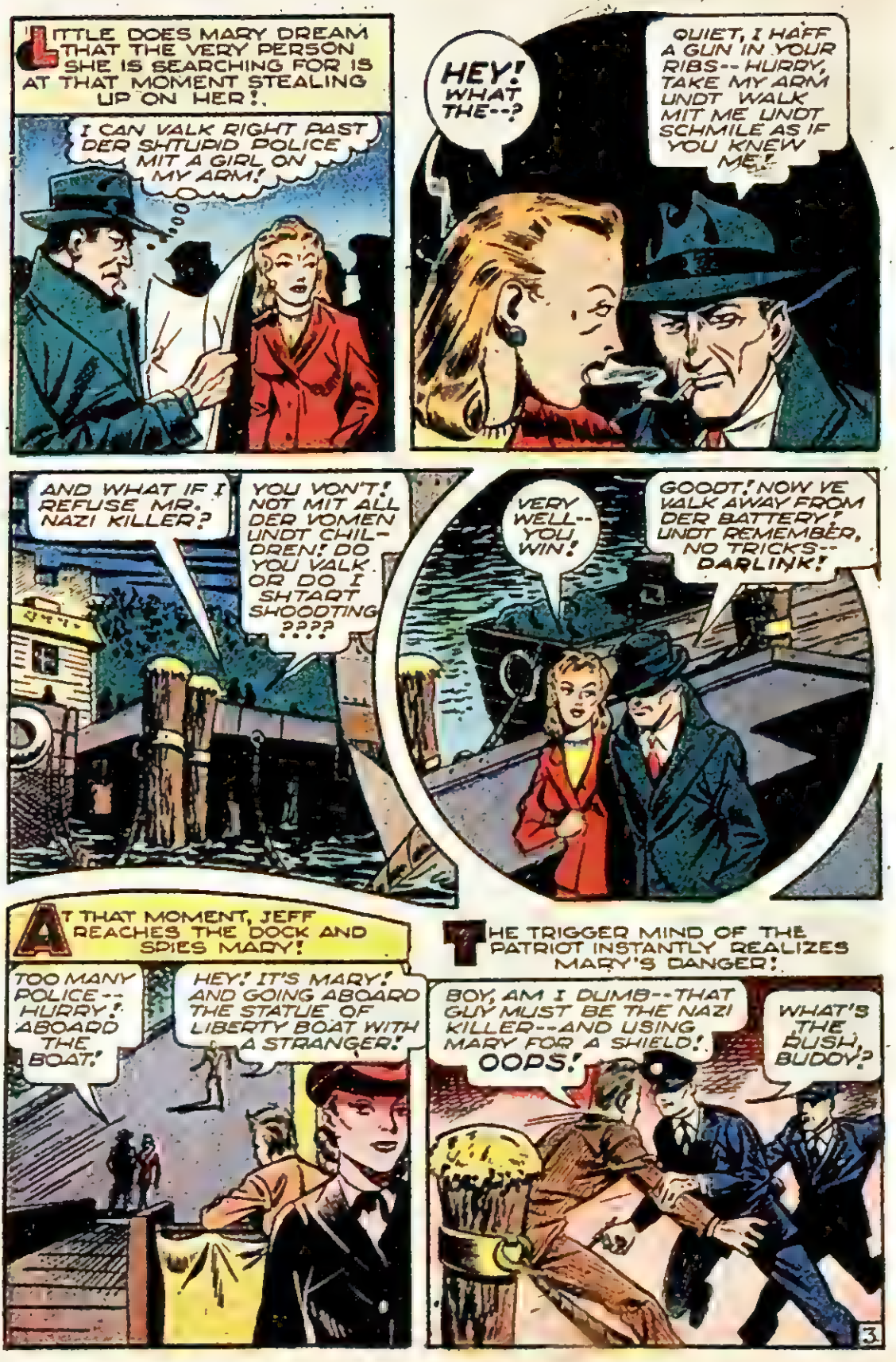
YOU HEARD THE RADIO! GET DOWN TO THE BATTERY AND GET THAT STORY!!

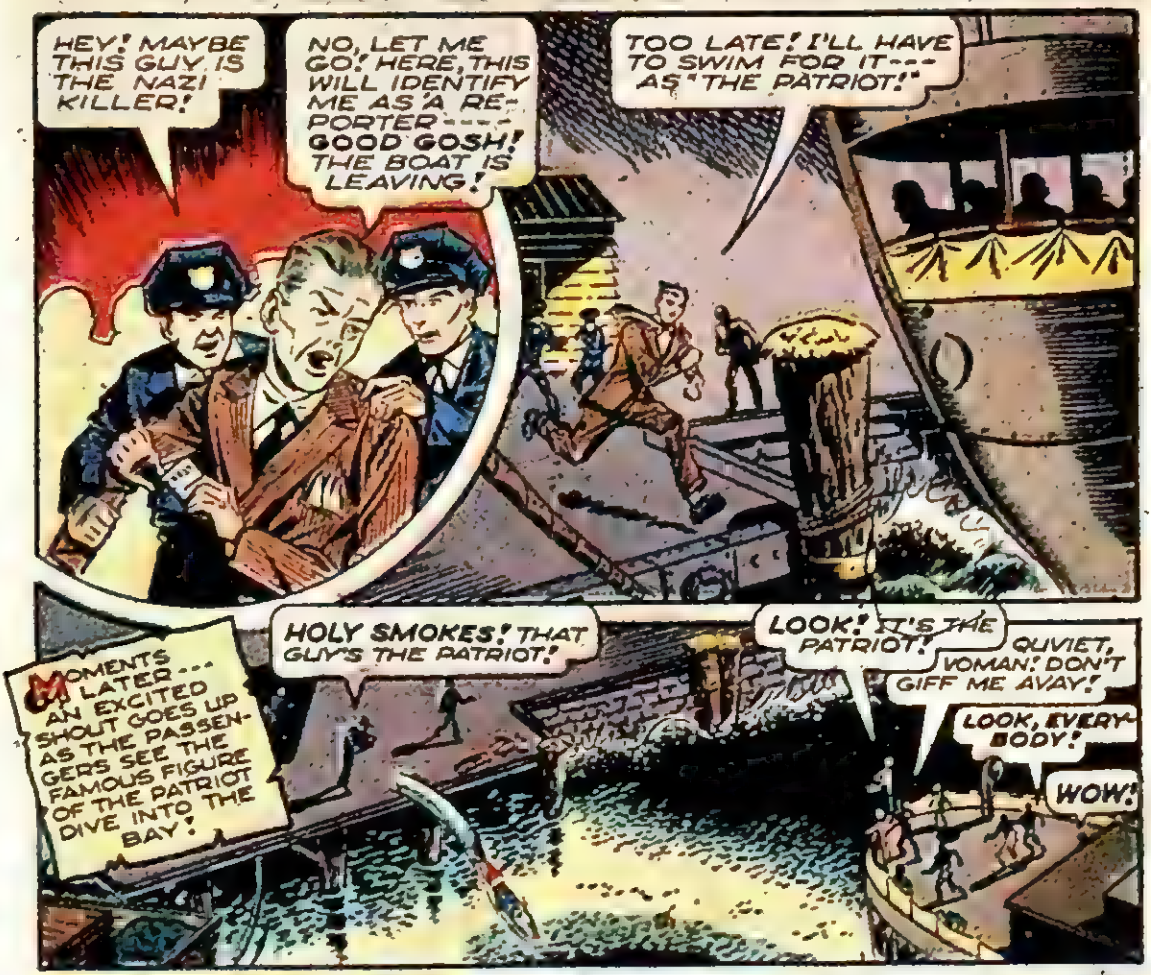
RIGHT, CHIEF! I'LL BE CALLING YOU!

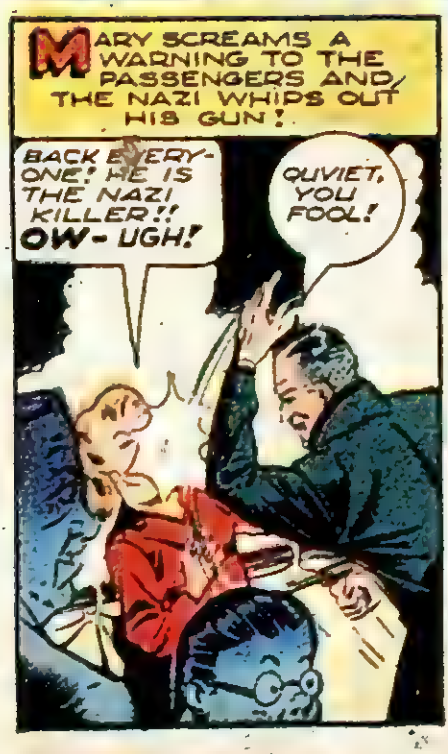
EDITOR

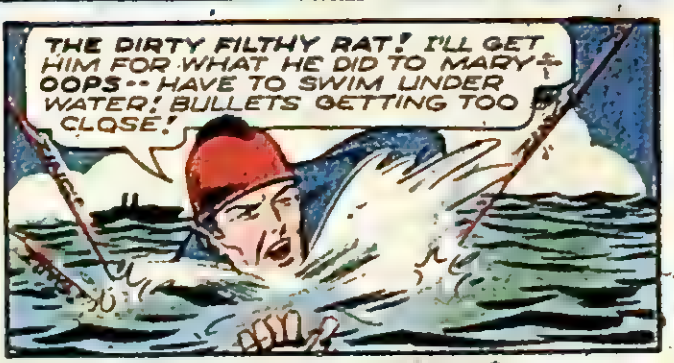
TWENTY MINUTES LATER -- WE JOIN MARY WATCHING THE CROWD DOWN AT THE BATTERY!

PLENTY OF COPS AROUND AND PLENTY OF PEOPLE -- IT ISN'T GOING TO BE EASY TO FIND THAT NAZI!

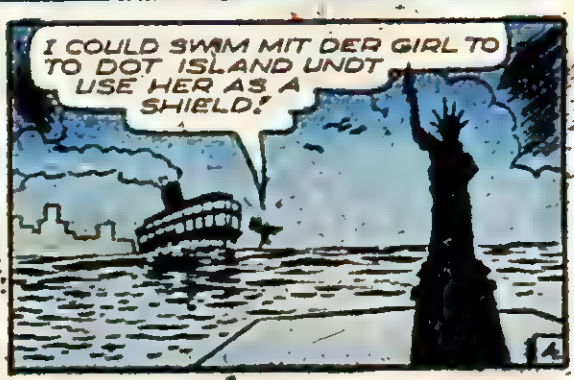

LITTLE DOES MARY DREAM THAT THE VERY PERSON SHE IS SEARCHING FOR IS AT THAT MOMENT STEALING UP ON HER!.
I CAN VALK RIGHT PAST DER SHTUPID POLICE MIT A GIRL ON MY ARM!
HEY! WHAT THE--?
QUIET, I HAFF A GUN IN YOUR RIBS-- HURRY, TAKE MY ARM UNDT WALK MIT ME UNDT SCHMILE AS IF YOU KNEW ME!
AND WHAT IF I REFUSE MR. NAZI KILLER?
YOU VON'T! NOT MIT ALL DER VOMEN UNDT CHILDREN! DO YOU VALK OR DO I SHTART SHOODTING ????
VERY WELL-- YOU WIN!
GOODT! NOW VE VALK AWAY FROM DER BATTERY! UNDT REMEMBER, NO TRICKS-- DARLINK!
AT THAT MOMENT, JEFF REACHES THE DOCK AND SPIES MARY!
THE TRIGGER MIND OF THE PATRIOT INSTANTLY REALIZES MARY'S DANGER!
TOO MANY POLICE-- HURRY! ABOARD THE BOAT!
HEY! IT'S MARY! AND GOING ABOARD THE STATUE OF LIBERTY BOAT WITH A STRANGER!
BOY, AM I DUMB--THAT GUY MUST BE THE NAZI KILLER--AND USING MARY FOR A SHIELD! OOPS!
WHAT'S THE RUSH, BUDDY?
3

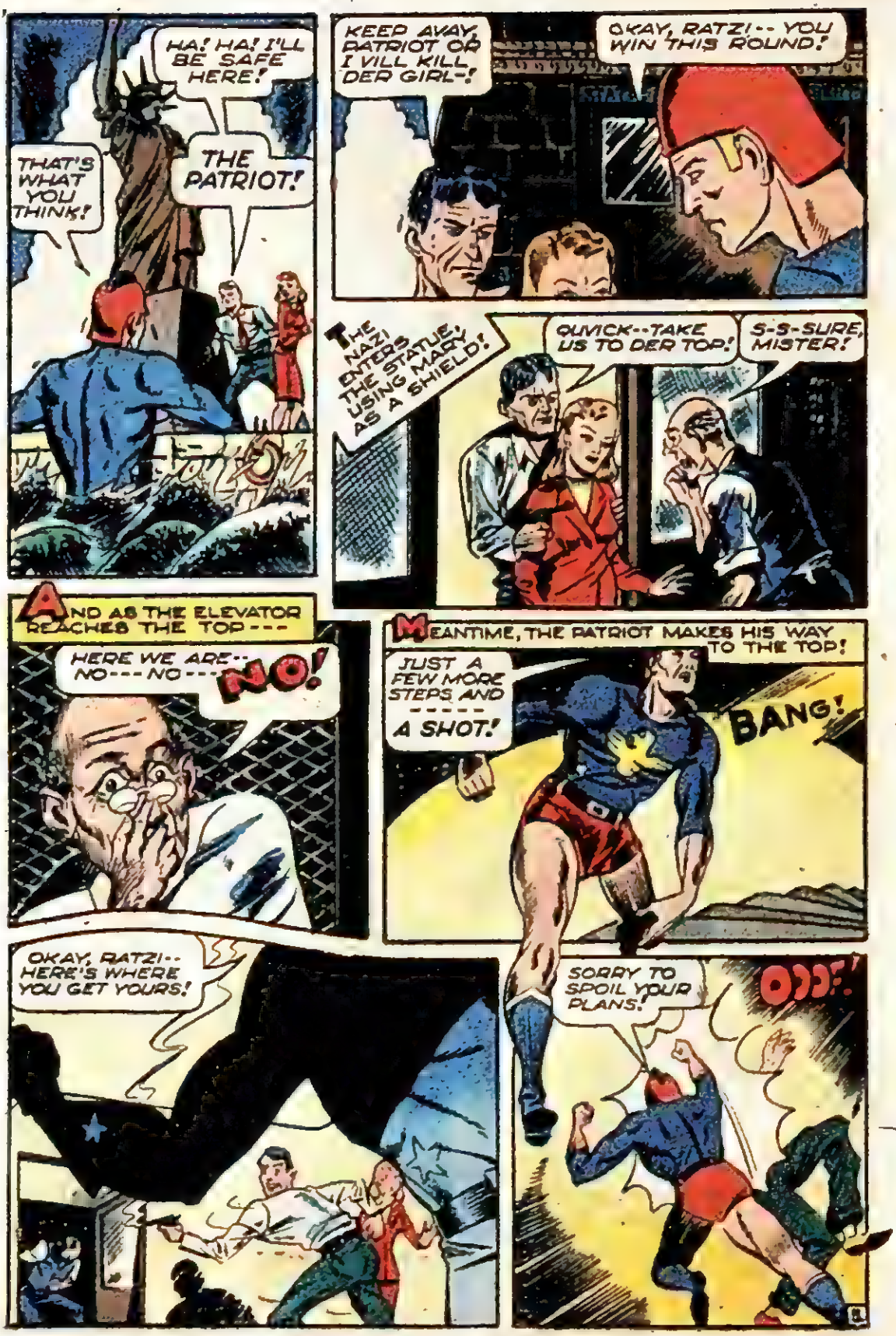

HEY! MAYBE THIS GUY IS THE NAZI KILLER!
NO, LET ME GO! HERE, THIS WILL IDENTIFY ME AS A REPORTER---- GOOD GOSH! THE BOAT IS LEAVING!
TOO LATE! I'LL HAVE TO SWIM FOR IT--- AS "THE PATRIOT!"
MOMENTS LATER--- AN EXCITED SHOUT GOES UP AS THE PASSENGERS SEE THE FAMOUS FIGURE OF THE PATRIOT DIVE INTO THE BAY!
HOLY SMOKES! THAT GUY'S THE PATRIOT!
LOOK! IT'S THE PATRIOT!
QUVIET, VOMAN! DON'T GIFF ME AVAY!
LOOK, EVERY-BODY!
WOW!


MARY SCREAMS A WARNING TO THE PASSENGERS AND THE NAZI WHIPS OUT HIS GUN!
BACK EVERY-ONE! HE IS THE NAZI KILLER!! OW- UGH!
QUVIET, YOU FOOL!

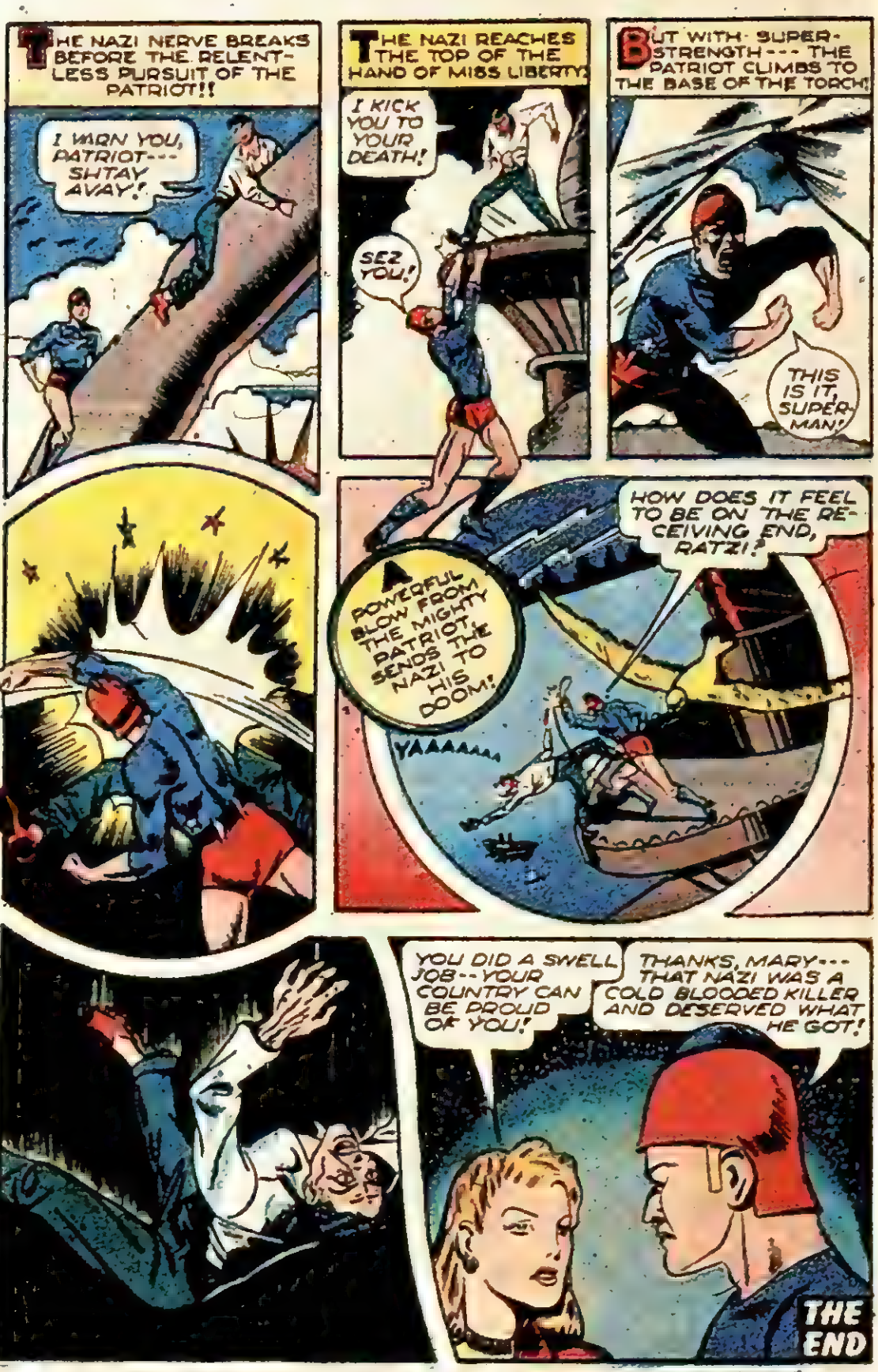


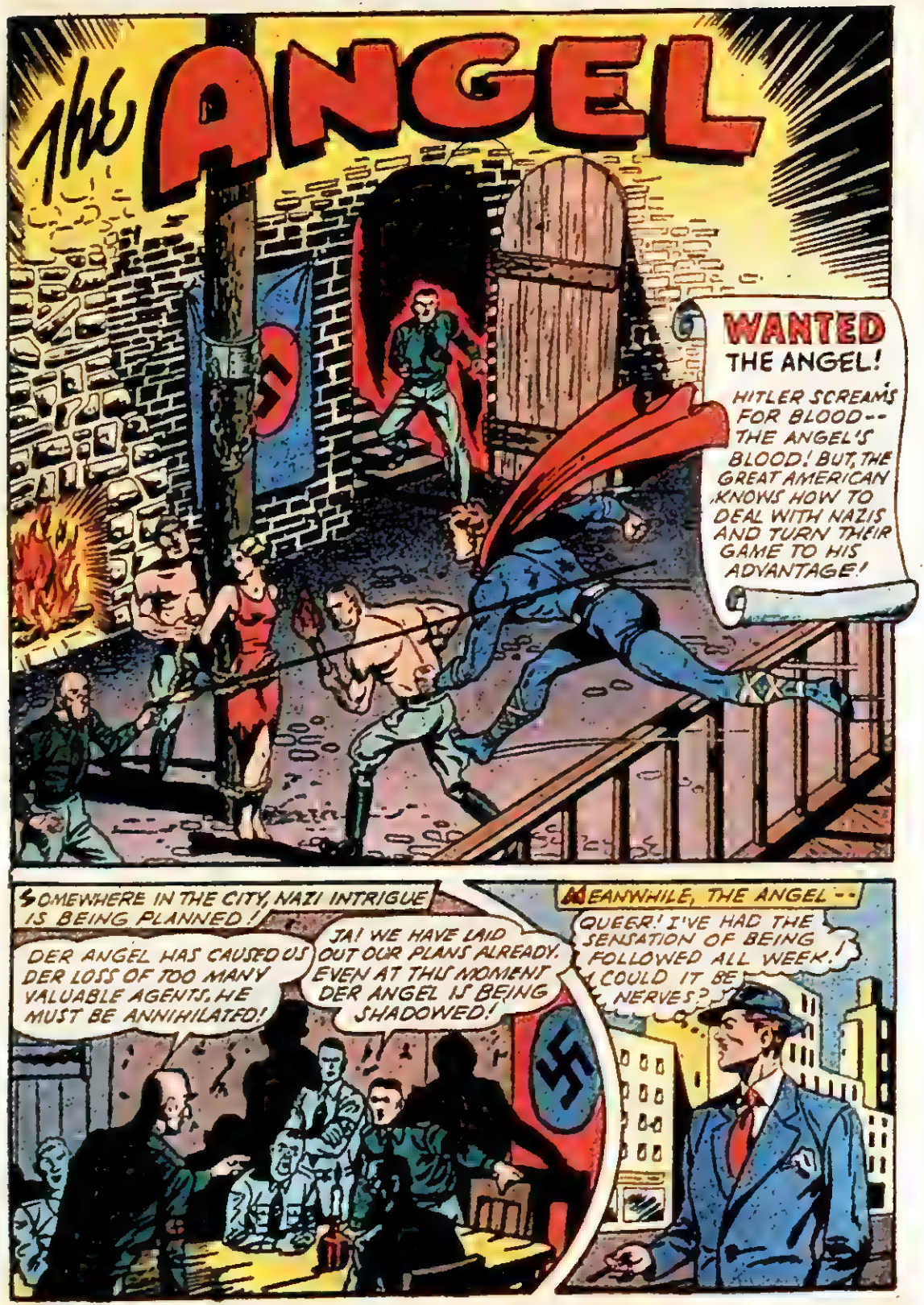
THE NAZI LEAPS FROM THE BOAT AS IT NEARS BEDLOE ISLAND!




HA! HA! I'LL BE SAFE HERE!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!
THE PATRIOT!
KEEP AWAY, PATRIOT OR I VILL KILL DER GIRL-!
OKAY, RATZI-- YOU WIN THIS ROUND!
THE NAZI ENTERS THE STATUE, USING MARY AS A SHIELD!
QUICK--TAKE US TO DER TOP!
S-S-SURE, MISTER!
AND AS THE ELEVATOR REACHES THE TOP---
HERE WE ARE-- NO--- NO---
NO!
MEANTIME, THE PATRIOT MAKES HIS WAY TO THE TOP!
JUST A FEW MORE STEPS AND ----- A SHOT!
BANG!
OKAY, RATZI-- HERE'S WHERE YOU GET YOURS!
SORRY TO SPOIL YOUR PLANS!
OOOF!

--AND AS THE NAZI FALLS TO THE FLOOR FROM THE PATRIOT'S MIGHTY BLOW, HE PULLS THE TRIGGER OF HIS REVOLVER!
OW!
ARE YOU HURT PATRIOT?!
NO, MARY--HE JUST NICKED MY SHOULDER!
LOOK, THE NAZI--HE'S CLIMBING OUT OF THE WINDOW!
YOU STAY HERE! I'LL GET HIM!
THERE HE GOES UP TO THE CROWN!
KEEP AWAY, PATRIOT! HIMMEL! I HAVE NO MORE AMMUNITION!
CLICK CLICK
GOOD GOSH! HE JUMPED FOR THE ARM OF MISS LIBERTY AND I'M GOING AFTER HIM!
ACH--DER ISS NO WAY OF SHTOPPING DOT PATRIOT! HE CHUMPED AND ISS COMING AFTER ME! I MUST CLIMB MY WAY TO DER TOP OF DER HANDT!

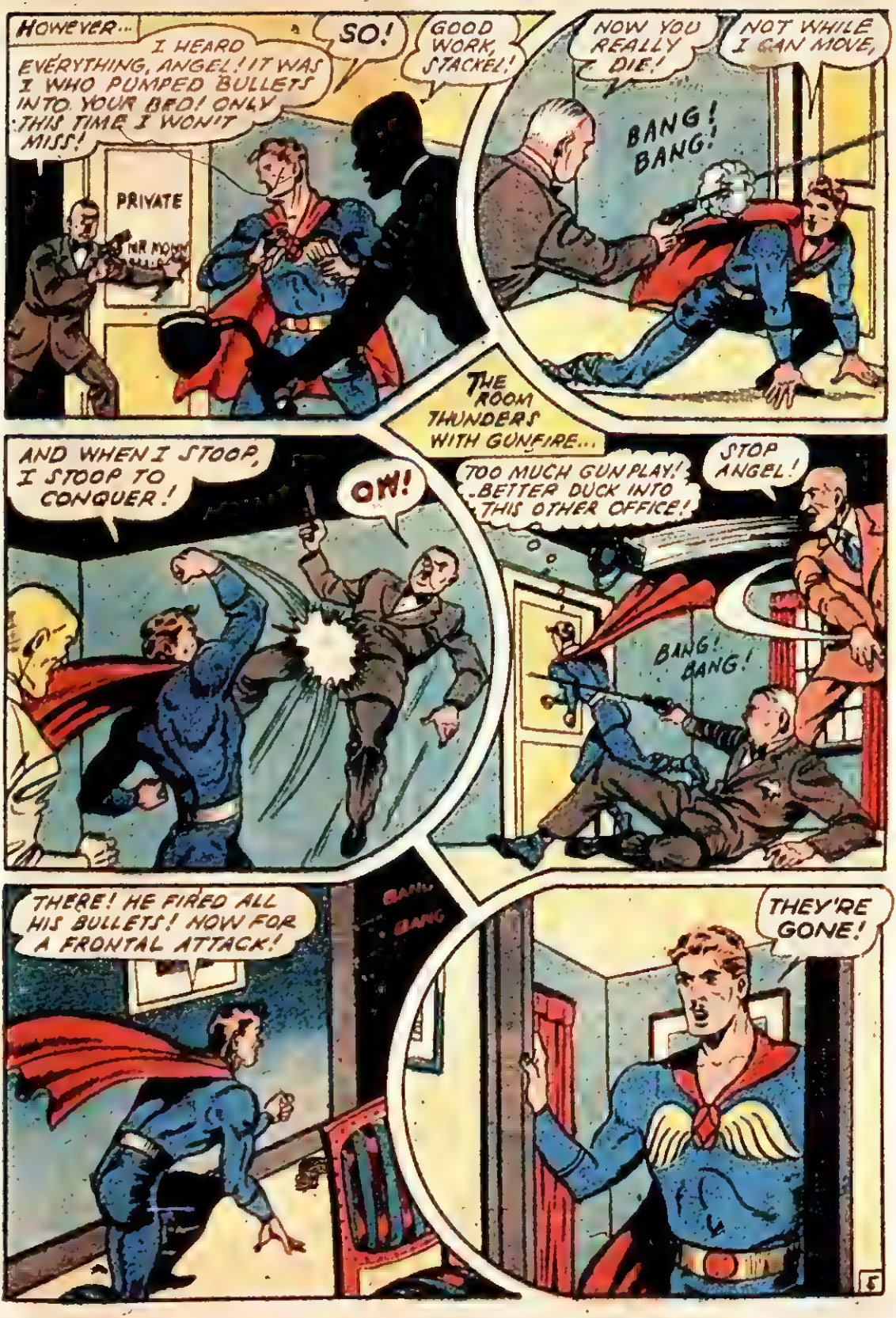

THE NAZI NERVE BREAKS BEFORE THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF THE PATRIOT!!
I WARN YOU, PATRIOT--- SHTAY AVAY!
THE NAZI REACHES THE TOP OF THE HAND OF MISS LIBERTY!
I KICK YOU TO YOUR DEATH!
SEZ YOU!
BUT WITH SUPER-STRENGTH--- THE PATRIOT CLIMBS TO THE BASE OF THE TORCH!
THIS IS IT, SUPERMAN!
A POWERFUL BLOW FROM THE MIGHTY PATRIOT SENDS THE NAZI TO HIS DOOM!
HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE ON THE RECEIVING END, RATZI?
YAAAAAAA
YOU DID A SWELL JOB--YOUR COUNTRY CAN BE PROUD OF YOU!
THANKS, MARY--- THAT NAZI WAS A COLD BLOODED KILLER AND DESERVED WHAT HE GOT!
THE END

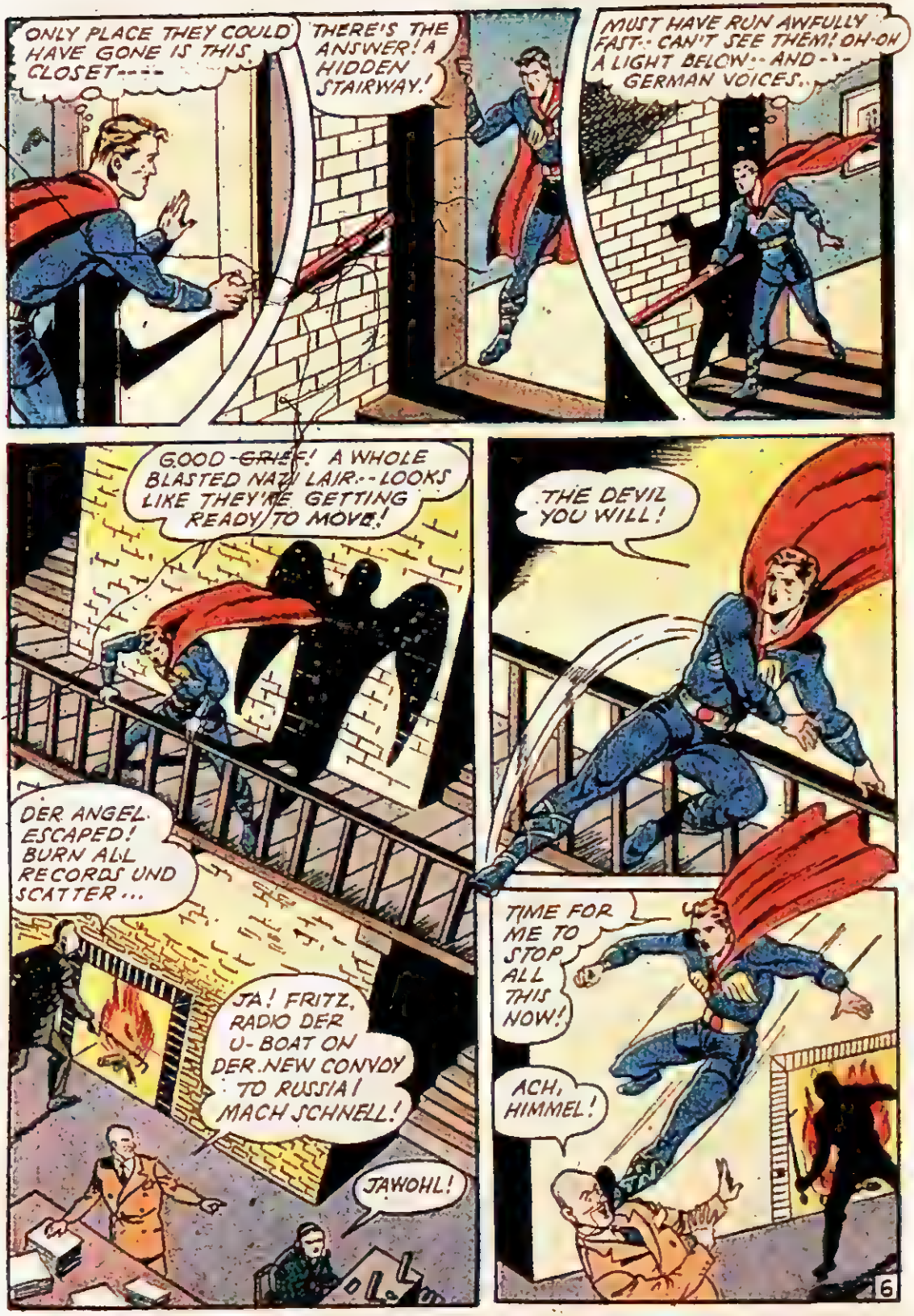

The ANGEL
WANTED
THE ANGEL!
HITLER SCREAMS FOR BLOOD--THE ANGEL'S BLOOD! BUT, THE GREAT AMERICAN KNOWS HOW TO DEAL WITH NAZIS AND TURN THEIR GAME TO HIS ADVANTAGE!
SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY, NAZI INTRIGUE IS BEING PLANNED!
DER ANGEL HAS CAUSED US DER LOSS OF TOO MANY VALUABLE AGENTS, HE MUST BE ANNIHILATED!
JA! WE HAVE LAID OUT OUR PLANS ALREADY. EVEN AT THIS MOMENT DER ANGEL IS BEING SHADOWED!
MEANWHILE, THE ANGEL--
QUEER! I'VE HAD THE SENSATION OF BEING FOLLOWED ALL WEEK! COULD IT BE NERVES?

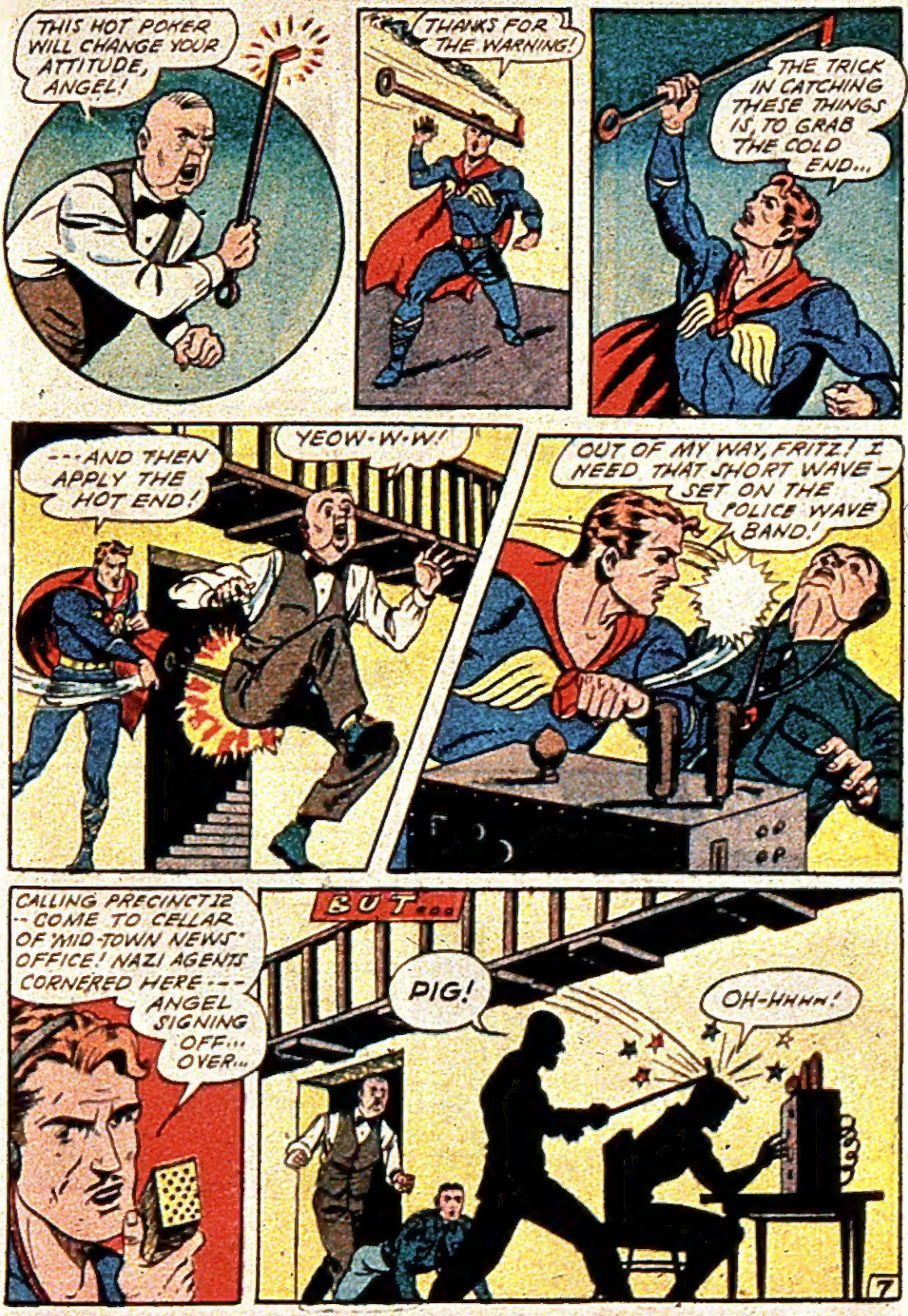
HAD A BUSY DAY AT H. Q. GUESS I'LL RETIRE AND GET A GOOD SLEEP!
FUNNY-- THAT FEELING OF BEING FOLLOWED STILL PERSISTS! THAT PROVES I'M OVER-TIRED!
WELL, I WON'T LET IT WORRY ME TOO MUCH!
CLOCK
THE TIME... ELEVEN P.M.
BONG BONG BONG BONG
SLOWLY, THE WINDOW TO THE ANGEL'S ROOM IS OPENED--
DIE, ANGEL!
HOWEVER, THE ANGEL IS VERY MUCH ALIVE AS HE STEPS OUT FROM THE CLOSET.
IT WORKED! LUCKY I THOUGHT OF THAT DUMMY! AND A DARNED GOOD THING I TRUSTED MY INTUITION!

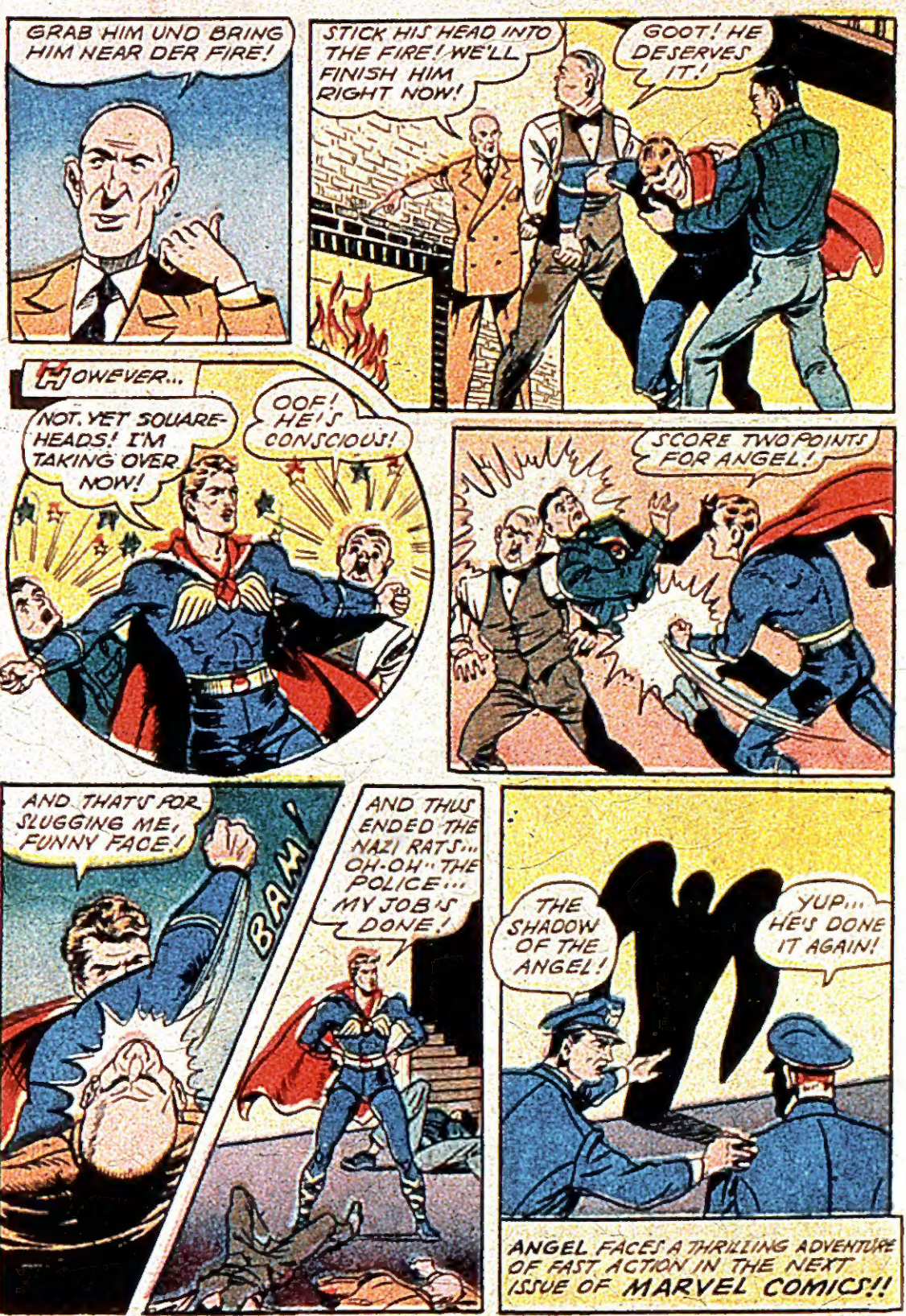
ONE HOUR LATER, AT HEADQUARTERS---
LUCKY YOU WEREN'T IN BED, ANGEL.
I KNOW! NOW, GIVE THIS STORY TO THE PAPERS--HAVE THEM PRINT A FRAMED-UP DEATH YARN.
EXTRA!
The Evening Star
EXTRA!
THE ANGEL MURDERED
ASSASSINATED IN BED, CITY MOURNS LOSS OF GREAT CRIME-BREAKER
POLICE INVESTIGATING
NEXT DAY...
QUEER TO READ ABOUT YOUR OWN MURDER! THE PAPERS HAVE DONE A SPLENDID JOB! THIS MIGHT BRING THE MURDER GANG TO LIGHT!
HOWEVER...
WHAT'S THIS?? THE "MID-TOWN NEWS" HASN'T GOT AN ITEM CONCERNING MY DEATH!!?
...AND, IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, THE "MID-TOWN NEWS" WAS INDICTED FOR UN-AMERICAN EDITORIALS SEVERAL YEARS BACK. CLEARED THEMSELVES ON THAT SCORE, BUT ---BUT---HMM!
I'M GOING TO VISIT THEIR OFFICE AS ED HARVEY, ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE. SOMETHING'S BEHIND THIS LACK OF NEWS.
AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICES OF THE "MID-TOWN NEWS".
MR. STACKEL--THIS IS MR. HARVEY!
YES, SIR...WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
I REPRESENT ACME ADVERTISING COMPANY! I HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO PLACE CONSIDERABLE ADVERTISING CONTRACTS WITH YOUR PAPER.
INDEED? SPLENDID!
MR. MONN, OUR PRESIDENT, WILL BE GLAD TO HEAR OF THIS. WON'T YOU STEP IN, MR. HARVEY?
THANK YOU!
PRIVATE
MR. MONN PRESIDENT
3

PLEASE BE SEATED, MR. HARVEY!
THANKS!
I'LL BE IN MY OFFICE IF YOU NEED ME.
I SEE YOU'RE READING OTHER PAPERS THAN YOUR OWN, MR. MONN?
ER-YES! I LIKE TO SEE WHAT GOES INTO MY COMPETITOR'S SHEETS.
STAY
RATHER INTERESTING NEWS, EH?
YOU MEAN THE DEATH OF THE ANGEL?! YES, A GREAT LOSS! TOO BAD!
UH-INCIDENTALLY, MR. MONN-WHY IS IT YOUR PAPER HASN'T CARRIED THE STORY ON THE ANGEL'S DEATH?
SIR! DID YOU COME HERE TO DISCUSS BUSINESS OR EDIT MY PAPER?
DID YOU KNOW THAT ANGEL IS ALIVE?-- THAT YOUR PLAN FAILED?
ALIVE-- WHAT?! EH, UH-- ARE YOU SUGGESTING THAT--
I MUST ASK YOU TO LEAVE-- MR. HARVEY!
NOT YET, MR. MONN-- FIRST TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT ME!
GRIEF! THE ANGEL! BUT, NO--
BUT, YES!--YOUR BULLETS MISSED ME, MONN!
STAY
4


HOWEVER...
I HEARD EVERYTHING, ANGEL! IT WAS I WHO PUMPED BULLETS INTO YOUR BRO! ONLY THIS TIME I WON'T MISS!
SO!
GOOD WORK, STACKEL!
PRIVATE
NOW YOU REALLY DIE!
BANG! BANG!
NOT WHILE I CAN MOVE,
THE ROOM THUNDERS WITH GUNFIRE...
AND WHEN I STOOP, I STOOP TO CONQUER!
OW!
TOO MUCH GUN PLAY! BETTER DUCK INTO THIS OTHER OFFICE!
STOP ANGEL!
BANG! BANG!
THERE! HE FIRED ALL HIS BULLETS! NOW FOR A FRONTAL ATTACK!
BANG BANG
THEY'RE GONE!
5


ONLY PLACE THEY COULD HAVE GONE IS THIS CLOSET----
THERE'S THE ANSWER! A HIDDEN STAIRWAY!
MUST HAVE RUN AWFULLY FAST-- CAN'T SEE THEM! OH-OH A LIGHT BELOW-- AND-- GERMAN VOICES..
GOOD-GRIEF! A WHOLE BLASTED NAZI LAIR-- LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GETTING READY TO MOVE!
THE DEVIL YOU WILL!
DER ANGEL ESCAPED! BURN ALL RECORDS UND SCATTER...
JA! FRITZ, RADIO DER U-BOAT ON DER NEW CONVOY TO RUSSIA! MACH SCHNELL!
JAWOHL!
TIME FOR ME TO STOP ALL THIS NOW!
ACH, HIMMEL!
6


THIS HOT POKER WILL CHANGE YOUR ATTITUDE, ANGEL!
THANKS FOR THE WARNING!
THE TRICK IN CATCHING THESE THINGS IS, TO GRAB THE COLD END...
---AND THEN APPLY THE HOT END!
YEOW-W-W!
OUT OF MY WAY, FRITZ! I NEED THAT SHORT WAVE - SET ON THE POLICE WAVE BAND!
CALLING PRECINCT 12 -- COME TO CELLAR OF "MID-TOWN NEWS" OFFICE! NAZI AGENTS CORNERED HERE--- ANGEL SIGNING OFF... OVER...
BUT...
PIG!
OH-HHHH!
7


GRAB HIM UND BRING HIM NEAR DER FIRE!
STICK HIS HEAD INTO THE FIRE! WE'LL FINISH HIM RIGHT NOW!
GOOT! HE DESERVES IT!
HOWEVER...
NOT YET SQUARE-HEADS! I'M TAKING OVER NOW!
OOF! HE'S CONSCIOUS!
SCORE TWO POINTS FOR ANGEL!
AND THAT'S FOR SLUGGING ME, FUNNY FACE!
BAM!
AND THUS ENDED THE NAZI RATS... OH-OH... THE POLICE... MY JOB'S DONE!
THE SHADOW OF THE ANGEL!
YUP... HE'S DONE IT AGAIN!
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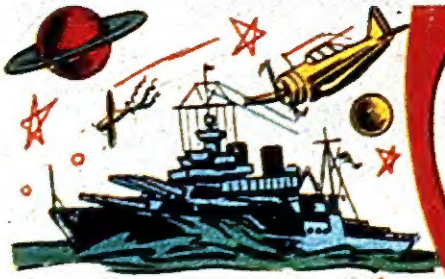

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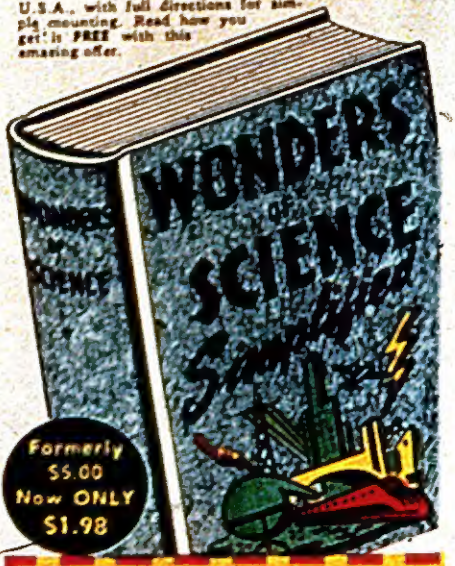

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